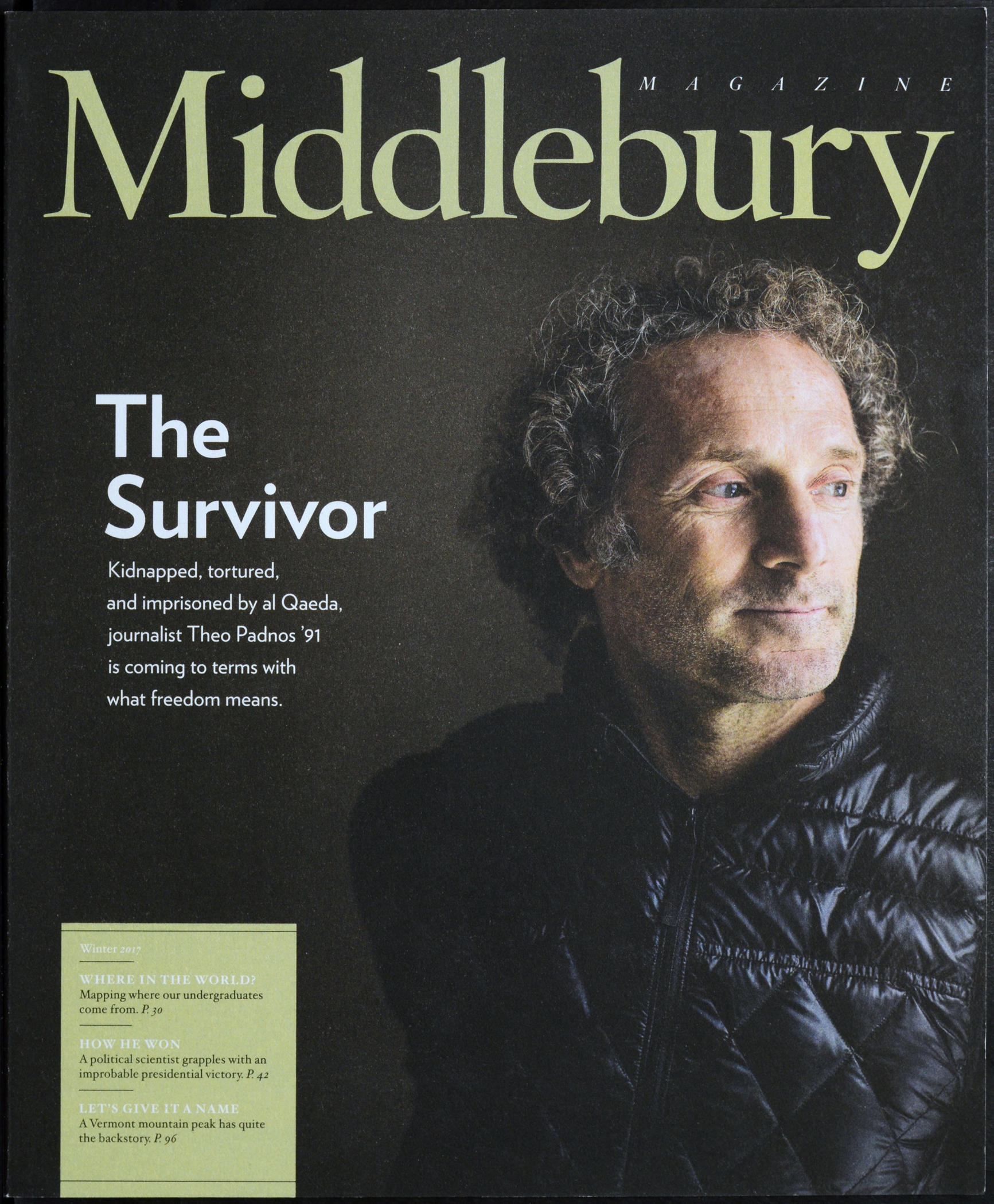
MAGAZINE

Middlebury



The Survivor

Kidnapped, tortured, and imprisoned by al Qaeda, journalist Theo Padnos '91 is coming to terms with what freedom means.

Winter 2017

WHERE IN THE WORLD?
Mapping where our undergraduates come from. *P. 30*

HOW HE WON
A political scientist grapples with an improbable presidential victory. *P. 42*

LET'S GIVE IT A NAME
A Vermont mountain peak has quite the backstory. *P. 96*

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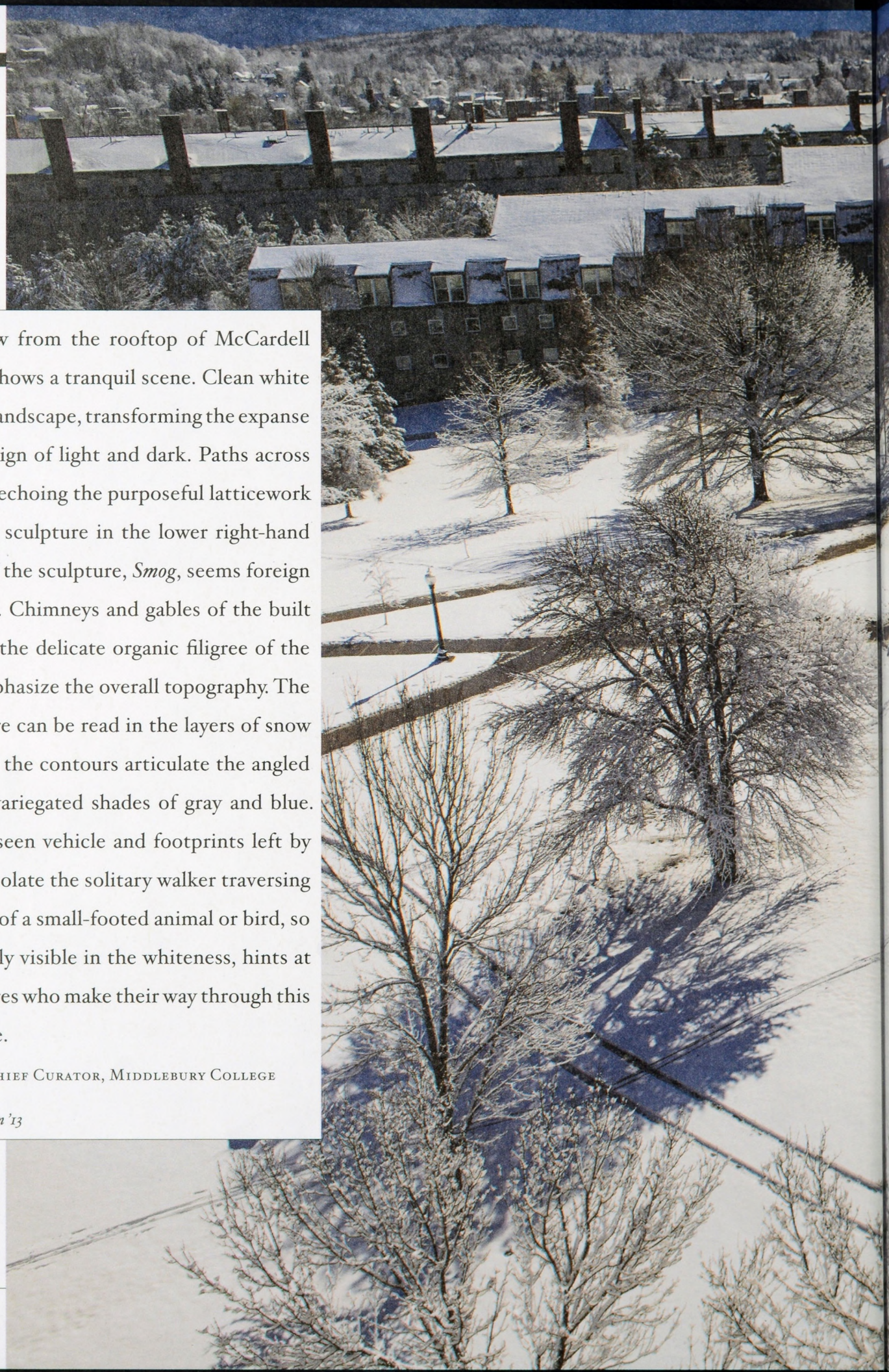
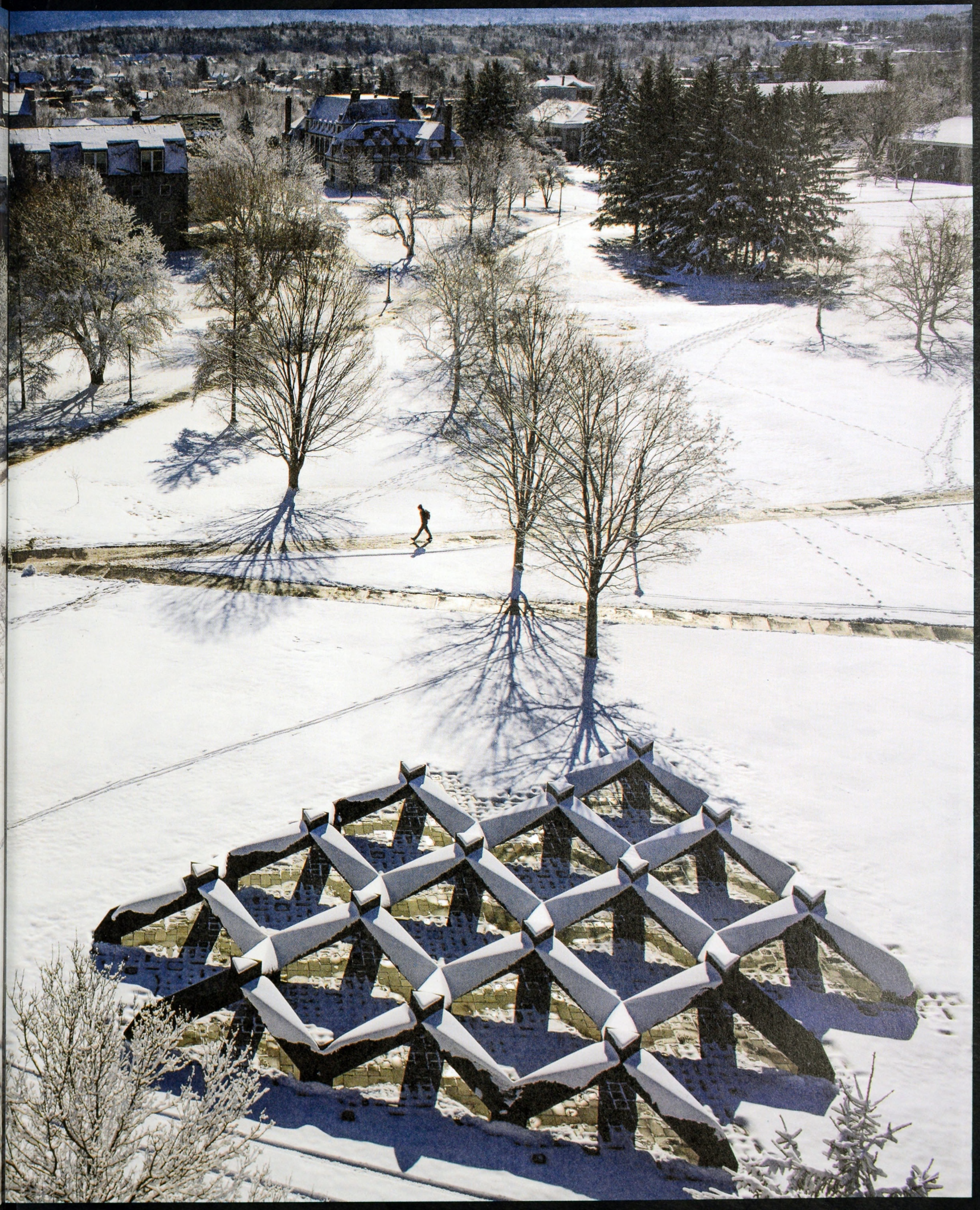


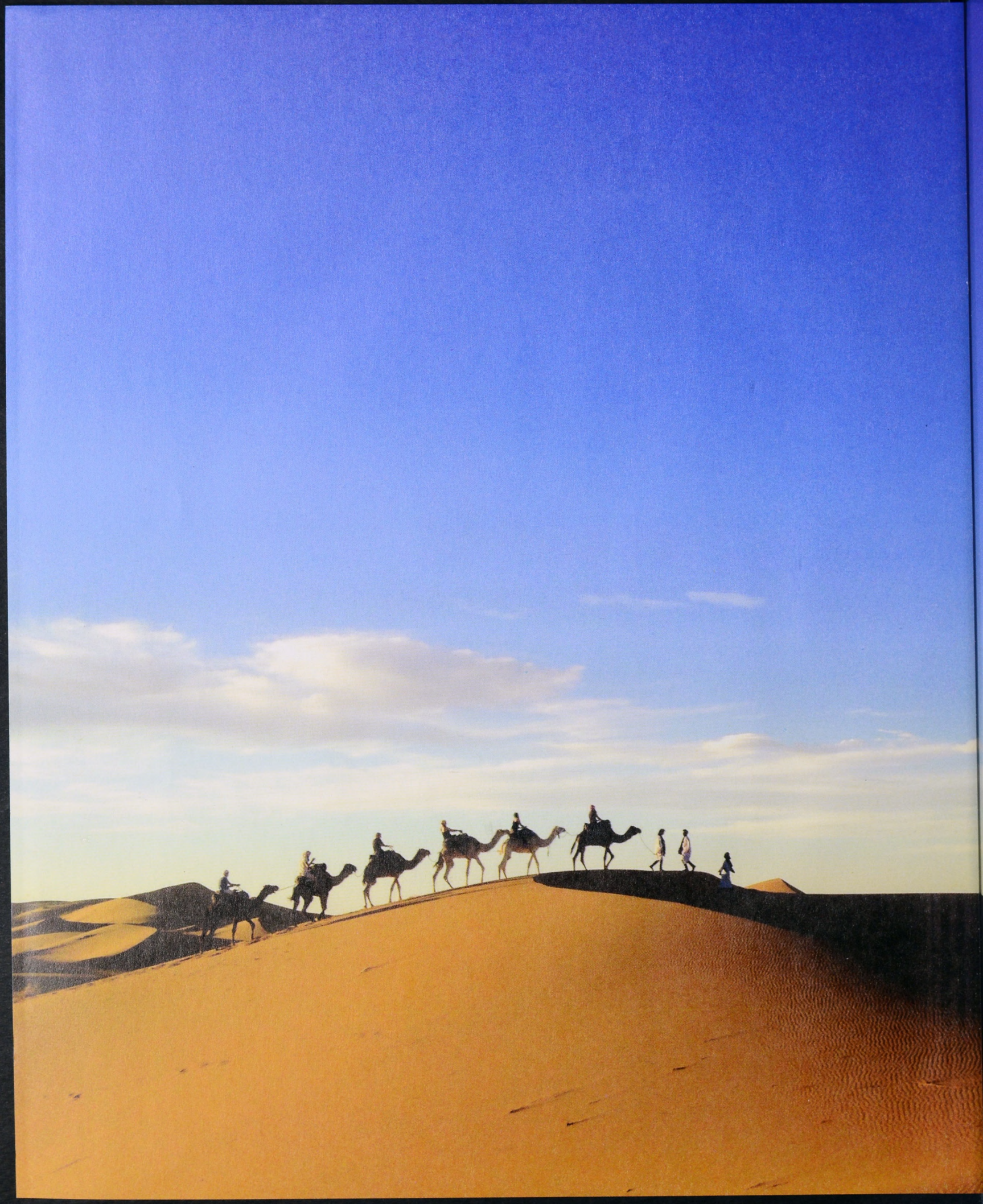
The bird's-eye view from the rooftop of McCardell Bicentennial Hall shows a tranquil scene. Clean white snow blankets the landscape, transforming the expanse into an elegant design of light and dark. Paths across the field intersect, echoing the purposeful latticework of the Tony Smith sculpture in the lower right-hand corner. The title of the sculpture, *Smog*, seems foreign to this clear vision. Chimneys and gables of the built landscape counter the delicate organic filigree of the trees. Shadows emphasize the overall topography. The ribs of the sculpture can be read in the layers of snow that they bear, and the contours articulate the angled metal surfaces in variegated shades of gray and blue. Tracks from an unseen vehicle and footprints left by prior pedestrians isolate the solitary walker traversing the field. The path of a small-footed animal or bird, so faint that it is barely visible in the whiteness, hints at the range of creatures who make their way through this shared winter space.

By Emmie Donadio, Chief Curator, Middlebury College Museum of Art

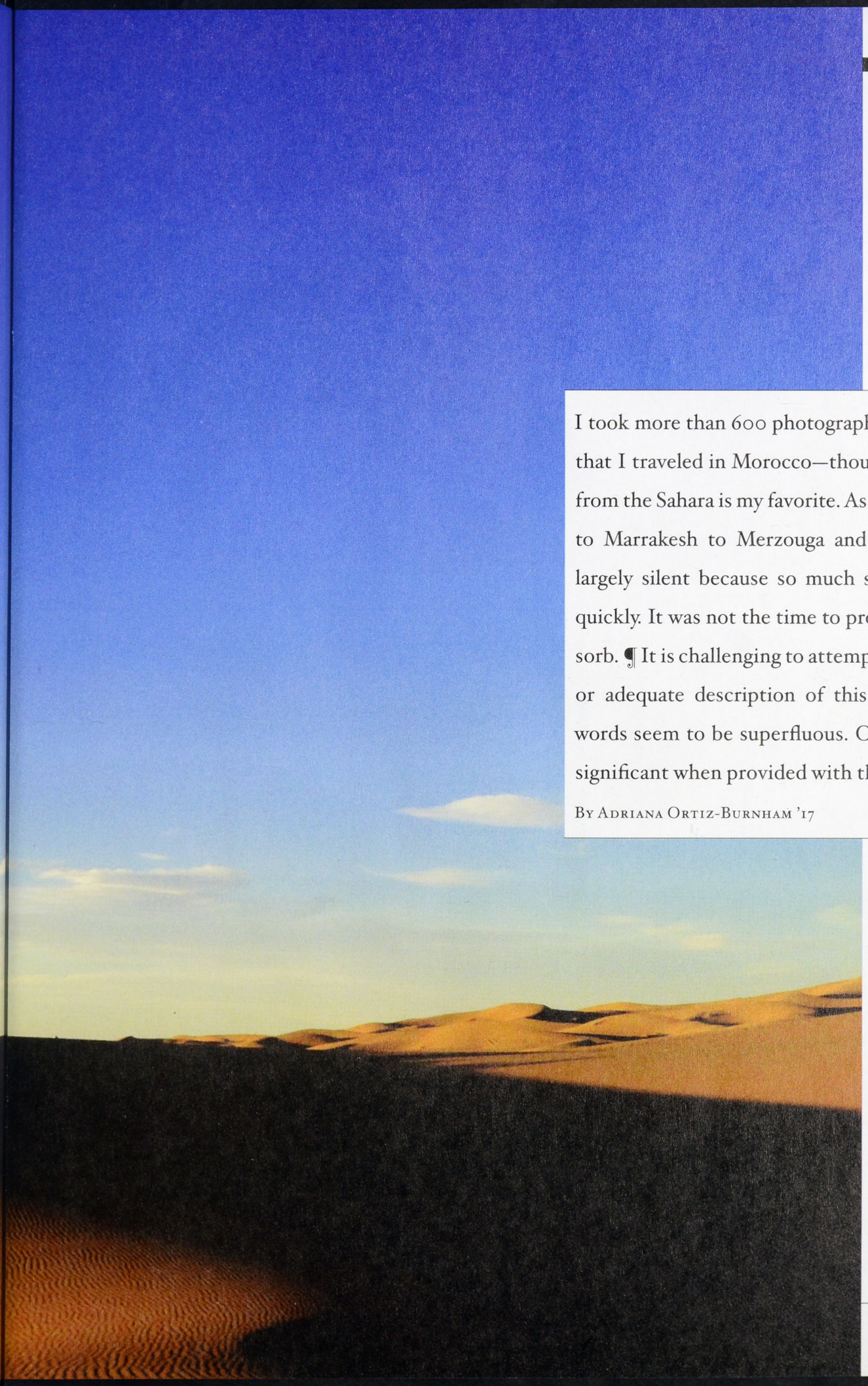
Photograph by Matt Lennon '13

Winter is here, and all is quiet on the north end of campus.





Adriana Ortiz-Burnham '17 was studying abroad in Córdoba, Spain, when she took an excursion to Morocco and captured this stunning image.

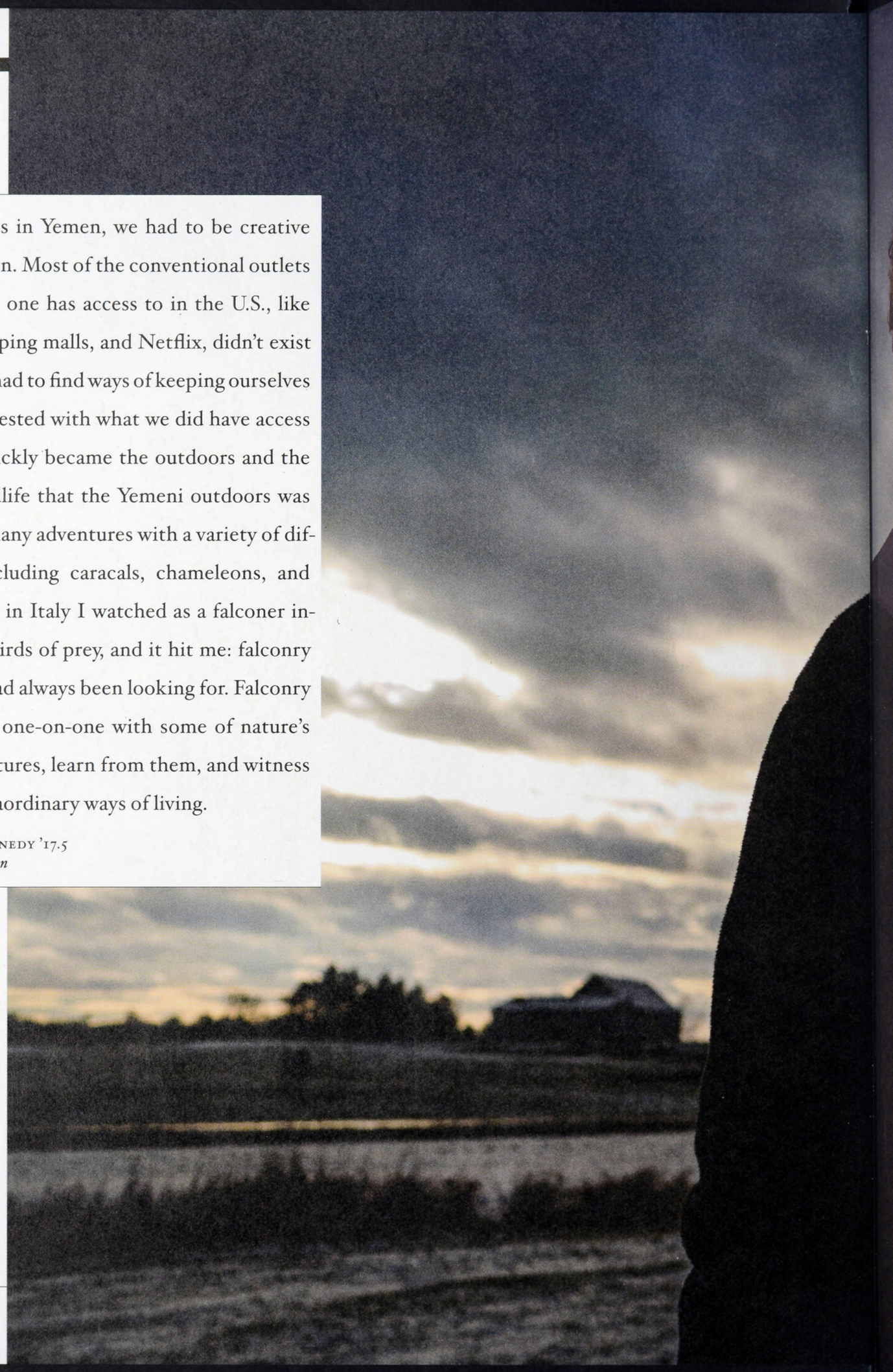


I took more than 600 photographs during the five days that I traveled in Morocco—though this particular one from the Sahara is my favorite. As I moved from Tangier to Marrakesh to Merzouga and Fez, I found myself largely silent because so much seemed to happen so quickly. It was not the time to project, but rather to absorb. ¶ It is challenging to attempt any sort of eloquent or adequate description of this photograph because words seem to be superfluous. One feels small and insignificant when provided with this view.

By Adriana Ortiz-Burnham '17

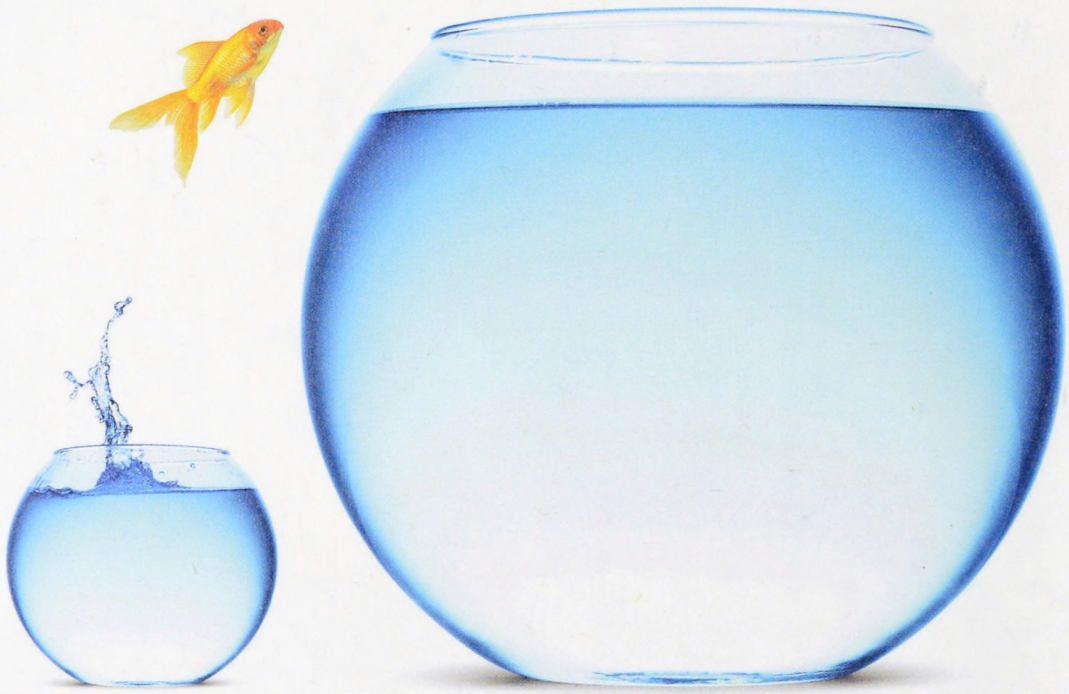
Growing up as kids in Yemen, we had to be creative with how we had fun. Most of the conventional outlets for recreation that one has access to in the U.S., like sports teams, shopping malls, and Netflix, didn't exist there. Instead, we had to find ways of keeping ourselves occupied and interested with what we did have access to. To me, that quickly became the outdoors and the vast wealth of wildlife that the Yemeni outdoors was home to. ¶ After many adventures with a variety of different species, including caracals, chameleons, and more, one summer in Italy I watched as a falconer interacted with his birds of prey, and it hit me: falconry was the pursuit I had always been looking for. Falconry allowed me to get one-on-one with some of nature's most majestic creatures, learn from them, and witness close-up their extraordinary ways of living.

By Tarim Contin-Kennedy '17.5
Photograph by Brett Simison



Tarim Contin-Kennedy '17.5 and his red-tailed hawk, Zeru, make for an interesting tandem on campus.

This summer, help them take it to the next level.



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Middlebury students come from 49 states and 69 countries. We map out the 2016–17 undergraduate populace.

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PHOTOGRAPH BY TODD BALFOUR (ABOVE LEFT). COVER PHOTOGRAPH BY KATHLEEN DOOHER. ABOVE ILLUSTRATION BY KATE O'HARA.

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Alumni College

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Taking the Ice

THIRTY BRAVE SOULS—I might be projecting just a bit—show up for the first day of the winter term workshop Learn to Ice Skate. Before taking the ice, the students spread out around the skate-changing room just off Kenyon Arena, checking in with their instructors, getting fitted for skates, and signing insurance waivers.

"If you've never been on the ice before, you're required to wear a helmet," junior Lydia Waldo announces to the class. She's one of three instructors along with sophomore Rose Kelly and senior Elizabeth Green. I ask Green how many of the students are beginners. "Probably about one-third," she says. "The others probably skated when they were younger, but haven't been on the ice in years."

The divide is immediately clear as a little more than half the class strides confidently through the blue double doors leading to the rink; the others, numbering 14, take a little longer to get ready, fidgeting with helmets and retying skates, before taking tentative steps onto the ice. These are my people. I'm to join them—though not today; I have to take notes—a novice among novices, 45 years old, a Vermont resident for 15 years, the father of a 10-year-old skater. My eyes are riveted on the beginners as they hug the boards, a flurry of thoughts running through my head: *Who needs to know how to do this? Why would someone think they need to know how to do this? How can I get out of this?*

Already, they've dubbed themselves the Wall Crew, and they march along the wall single file like penguins, taking short, choppy steps, as if performing a slow-motion conga line. "All right, hands off the boards," Waldo instructs. *Oh no, so soon?* I think. Waldo then leads the group through a series of exercises—they learn how to safely fall, how to get up, how to stroke, how to stop. After 30 minutes, most of the group can skate down and back, their legs no longer ramrod straight, their steps less tentative. It dawns on me that when I come out—with skates next time—I'll be all alone in ability. And fear. "You'll be fine," Waldo assures me. "It's going to be fun." I don't believe her, until I look out and register the looks on the faces of the Wall Crew. Okay, I allow. Maybe. M

ILLUSTRATION BY TRACI DABERKO

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STAFF

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EDITOR
Matt Jennings

ART DIRECTOR
Pamela Fogg

ALUMNI EDITOR
Sara Thurber Marshall

SENIOR DESIGNERS
Carey Bass '99, Paul Dahm

COPY EDITOR
Jessie Raymond '90

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR
Willa Lampman

PRODUCTION DESIGNER
Jim Burns

VICE PRESIDENT FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER
Bill Burger

EDITORIAL OFFICE
152 College Street
Middlebury, Vermont 05753
Phone: 802-443-5670
Email: middmag@middlebury.edu
Online: www.middmag.com

ADVERTISING SALES OFFICE
H. Abby Hummel
18 Garfield Street
Bristol, Vermont 05443
Phone: 802-453-2913
Email: Abby@GetSmartVt.com

ADDRESS CHANGES
Alumni Records (ca_records@middlebury.edu)
Middlebury College
700 Exchange Street
Middlebury, Vermont 05753

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A Sense of Belonging

By Laurie L. Patton

You are reading this column shortly after the 45th president of the United States was inaugurated on January 20. Inauguration Day, where the transfer of power happens peacefully, is a cornerstone of our democracy. It's a time when, as Americans, we face forward together and start anew.

The contentiousness and divisiveness of this past election cycle won't be old news by Inauguration Day. Indeed, one candidate winning the Electoral College and another winning the popular vote, and the evidence of how urban areas versus rural areas voted, reveals how we are in some ways a deeply divided country.

Like most communities, we feel the divisions at Middlebury, too. Many voted for Clinton. Many others voted for Trump. The aftermath of the election revealed that the deep divisions in our country are also evident on our campus. We would expect nothing less in a diverse community of vibrantly shared educational ideas. That is the Middlebury that I know, and the Middlebury that you know.

But now more than ever, we must affirm that the Middlebury we know is a place where everyone belongs. While we may have philosophical and political differences among us, we are also committed to engaging courageously and curiously in the public sphere to explore these differences.

We encourage conversation about disagreement. That's the robust public sphere that we all should be working toward, and what the idea of "rhetorical resilience" that I have been promoting this academic year is all about.

Every single one of us belongs here—our students, our faculty, our staff, our alumni. We belong here whether we graduated in 1946 or 1976 or 2016, because despite radical changes to the size and scope of Middlebury, we are essentially the same institution: one that lives up to its motto of Knowledge and Virtue. We belong whether we earned our bachelor's degree in English or economics, whether we played lacrosse or played violin. We belong whether we studied abroad or never left Vermont. We belong whether we studied at the Language Schools, or Bread Loaf, or are part of the Middlebury Institute of International Studies—the newest part of our newly complex Middlebury—because we all have high standards, we all believe in excellence, we all believe that education is a powerful tool of transformation.

Middlebury is an evolving community, just as our nation is changing, evolving, becoming more diverse, and more integrated. We hope to avoid the stratifications that we have seen evolve in our country, but where we do see them, we must address them. We must build bridges among our student bodies in Vermont, and California, and abroad, among our alumni communities, so that we all are welcome and able to cross them.

How do we build those bridges? By having conversations. By connecting and listening, respectfully, to those with whom we believe we may have little in common and discovering our commonalities. By understanding that we don't have to agree to be in community together.

We build our bridges and celebrate our belonging, by focusing on what brings us together. We understand how Monterey, a campus with a 10-year relationship with Middlebury, belongs because of the shared values that unite us. We understand how a talented and ambitious student who is the first in his or her family to attend college, and a talented and ambitious student who is the fourth generation in his or her family to attend Middlebury, both belong because they both possess the gifts of intellect and curiosity that we value most here. We understand how conservative alumni, liberal alumni, and apolitical alumni all belong because regardless of political outlook, they all have looked at the same mountains that surround our campus, and walked the same pathways, and learned in the same halls.

When Middlebury College was founded in 1800, it was after a divisive episode involving the allocation of government funds. There were then further arguments about whether the campus was to be built on the east or west side of Otter Creek. And yet, there was a clear sense that no matter on which side of the creek the campus was to be built, a strong bridge over the river always needed to be part of the design. And the citizens of Middlebury remained genuinely and openly committed to building a college together, and a campus was built, and an educational community formed that has been working to build bridges, both literal and figurative, ever since.

We all belong because we are all Middlebury, and we are a community that builds bridges, and then crosses those bridges, together. M

ILLUSTRATION BY MONTSE BERNAL

Talk

FEATURED CONTRIBUTORS

Michael Blanding ("The Survivor") is an award-winning journalist whose work has appeared in *Wired*, *Slate*, the *Boston Globe*, and *Boston* magazine—as well as this humble periodical. He wrote the terrific profile of Heidi Rehm '93, "Code Breaker," in our spring 2015 issue.

Matt Dickinson ("How He Won") wasn't planning on writing a feature story for this issue—and then Donald Trump shocked many by capturing the presidency in November. A longtime faculty member with expertise in the American presidency, Dickinson spent much of his sabbatical traveling around the country and attending political rallies, town hall discussions, and even the Republican National Convention. His insightful piece offers a political scientist's perspective on one of the more unusual electoral outcomes in our nation's history.

Kathleen Dooher (Cover, "The Survivor") traveled from her studio just outside of Boston to Bridgewater, Vermont, to photograph Theo Padnos '91 for this issue's cover story. Kathleen produces stunning portraits—and she didn't disappoint us with this assignment. Her work can be found at kathleendooher.photoshelter.com.

Victor Juhasz ("How He Won") is a top-flight illustrator who has been contributing drawings to this nation's finest publications since the mid-1970s. His client list includes *Time*, *Newsweek*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, *Esquire*, *GQ*, and *Rolling Stone*. Check out his work at juhaszillustration.com.

Michael Newhouse ("Where in the World?") created the wonderfully fascinating infographic for our map department this issue. We gave Michael a bucketload of statistics about where our student body comes from, and he then brought this visual spectacle to life. His work can be viewed at newhousedesign.com.

Kate O'Hara ("Bye, Bye Love") illustrated Meghan Nesmith's feature about lost love and how this may affect one's connection with Middlebury. Kate's work is moody and nostalgic, which was perfect for this particular assignment. Her client list includes Cirque du Soleil, Crabtree & Evelyn, Brooklyn Botanic Garden—and the Eastern State Penitentiary. We're not sure if this last one is a joke, and we're kinda afraid to ask. Her work can be seen at kate-ohara.com.

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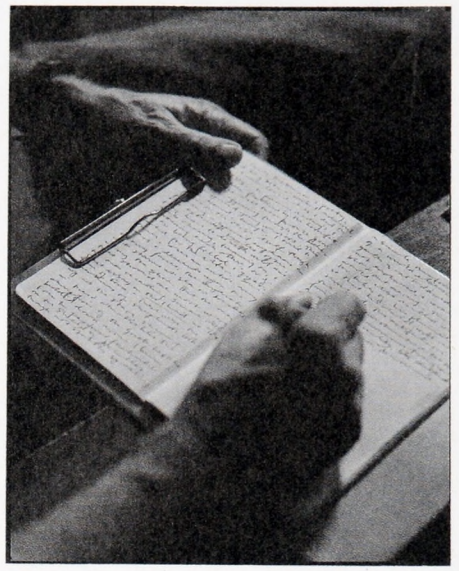


John Elder Turns the Page

A PORTRAIT OF A BELOVED EMERITUS PROFESSOR

By Scott Russell Sanders
Photographs by Brett Simison

As he speaks of life in retirement, John Elder's voice brims with serene delight. His students and colleagues have come to recognize this note as a hallmark of the man, both inside and outside of classrooms, during his four decades at the College. Whether leading a discussion or a hike, sharing ideas or food, reciting poems or playing a game of Go, he radiates a sense of equanimity and zest.

In conversations we've shared over the course of 30 years, I've noticed how often John begins a sentence by saying, "It's interesting." He uses the phrase often, this summer of 2016, as he answers questions about his life. "You know, it's interesting," he tells me, "how many of my greatest blessings have arrived seemingly by chance." The blessing he mentions first is his wife, Rita, whom he met in the choir at Pomona College, where both were undergraduates.

We are sitting in his study, in the zero-net-energy house that he and Rita arranged to have built for their retirement, in the town of Bristol, 12 miles from Middlebury. John has folded his six-foot-two frame into a chair flanked by stacks of books, letters, news clippings weighted down by a granite cobble, and yellow legal pads inscribed with his minuscule script. A faint smile reveals his amusement at being interviewed by an old friend. As he ponders his responses, which emerge in shapely paragraphs, he gazes across the room, his eyes the blue-green of ocean.

The walls display tokens of his past and current passions—bestsellers of poems by Gary Snyder and Wendell Berry; a sheet of Japanese calligraphy; an Ansel Adams photograph of Yosemite Valley; three banjos. A map of the nearby town of Starksboro, where the Elder family tends a sugarbush, hangs next to a map of Connemara, in western Ireland, where John and Rita have gone exploring in recent years. A meditation mat rests on the floor, a book about mysticism on the desk.

This super-insulated new house, with 30 solar panels on the roof and an electric car in the garage, is only a few blocks away from the handsome, drafty, largely wood-heated Victorian where John and Rita reared their three children. They had hoped to live out their days in that beloved old house, but then Rita was diagnosed with an illness that would, over time,

INSPIRATIONAL ELDER

I am grateful for having been taught by John Elder ("John Elder Turns the Page," fall 2016) when I was an Orion Fellow at the Bread Loaf School of English during the summer of 1996.

Every moment that summer, as we read and discussed writers from Frost to Dillard, wrote and revised essays with his guidance, sketched in the fields and woods around Ripton, tracked bobcat, hiked up Mount Marcy, or simply gathered at John's Bristol home to share our stories, was unforgettable. Scott Russell Sanders was one of the writers we read that summer, and his article beautifully captures John's grace, humility, and empathy. His students' tributes reflect the close-knit and mutually respectful communities that each of his classes became.

John's ability to convey with such passion and joy his appreciation for literature, and his constant encouragement, inspired me and scores of Middlebury and Bread Loaf alumni and informed the lives we would lead and the teaching and writing we would do from that point on.

—Laurie O'Neill, MA English '98, *Lexington, Massachusetts*

A MASTER TEST MAKER, AS WELL

In the lovely and loving portrait of Professor John Elder, Scott Russell Sanders neglected one of Professor Elder's unsung talents: his ability to craft the most imaginative and original test question I ever encountered at Middlebury.

For the final exam on a course on the modern novel in the spring semester of 1976, he selected a passage from *Alice in Wonderland* and asked us to rewrite it in the style of some of the authors we had read that semester, such as Joyce, Woolf, Forster, and others. The question required us to know each novelist and then to apply our understanding of them in the most creative way possible. It is without a doubt the only test question I ever enjoyed answering. Indeed, 40 years later, it is the only test question I can even remember.

—Andrew Gyory '78, *Brooklyn, New York*

LESSONS LEARNED, EVEN TODAY

Thank you for a great piece that brought back so many fond memories and made me understand things about myself, even today.

I never formed a personal friendship with John that lasted beyond my time at Middlebury but clearly he helped set me on a trajectory that has landed me in a career I enjoy: environmental consulting and restoration. I encounter many in this field who lack clear writing skills, as well as direction and inspiration and a sense of mission, all for which I partly owe John.

—Paul Woodworth '99, *Commenting on middmag.com*

PONDERING GRACE

"John Elder Turns the Page" is a wonderful portrait of a remarkable teacher. There were some beginnings of tears of joy in reading it—just the beginning so that nothing would blur this fine prose.

I have pondered for many years that word "grace" John once used in a response to an essay of mine. It was one of the gifts he gave me.

—Marty McMahon, MA English '77, *Commenting on middmag.com*

IN FRIENDSHIP

Scott Russell Sanders wrote such a wonderful profile of John Elder, and I was honored to be included in the story. My sentiments touched on the notion of friendship, and I'd like to expand on the theme here.

In my email exchanges with John Elder during the last five years, he always signs off with "In Friendship." That is a good place to be.

Our friendship was seeded in the summer of 2009. John was the director of Bread Loaf in Vermont when I shared a poem I had written in Paul Muldoon's poetry class. It chronicled a tumultuous and somehow still heartening first year of teaching as a second-career 41-year-old.

Entitled "You can't get them all," it had to do with getting to a difficult teaching truth: I would not reach all my students no matter the extent of my effort or the depth of my students' pain or need. John's quiet response, almost whispered, was, "Someone had to tell you that?"

He saw me. I was seen.

Three years later in John's Frost class our friendship grew. I learned a new, compelling Modern Frost, witnessed ways to be a better teacher by creating the conditions for insight and creativity, and moved toward becoming more whole in the midst of my own confusion.

In each class, John adeptly applied the tools of a master teacher—the clear-minded capacity to listen and understand each student and a literary fluency born of a deep immersion and personal engagement—and fostered them in us. "When making an axe handle the pattern is not far off."

I feel certain each student in that class felt as I did: seen, understood, yes, loved. We all benefited from John's youth spent reading and reciting the King James Bible with his family. Poetry inscribes him. Once as I struggled to recall a line of Stevens, John, without pretense, recited the poem in its entirety.

And, oh, the moments he made for us—nested in a circle beneath the library pines deep in open dialogue, perched on rocks amidst the Middlebury River to read "West Running Brook," alighted at the Frost cabin to imagine our way into the poet's days and nights—they will persist.

I experienced more healing and growth in that summer than at any other time in my life. Never have I been so encouraged to put as much of myself, my best, courageous and chastened self, into the world. John not only helped me intellectually understand Milton's fortunate fall in a postmodern world—"Some natural tears they drop'd, but wip'd them soon / The World was all before them"—he stood next to me in friendship as I worked through my own lapses, disappointments, and confusions of work, of family, of purpose and meaning.

After I sent him a student poem that had knocked me back, he wrote: "I love the vivid, authentic responses your students are making to, and through, poetry. When such intensity can be fostered within a class the effect is healing. There's probably a better word there, but what I'm gesturing toward is the brokenness that we often feel because of our personal confusions and transitions, because of the disconnect between cultural ideals and social realities, and because of mortality's emotional pressure. Suddenly, a momentary stay, a glimpse beyond (though always in the midst of) confusion."

These "stays" shared are reason enough to teach and perhaps to live. Frost's "Directive" instructs: John, you, helped me to find glimpses of my "waters and watering place" in friendship.

—Harrison Hobart, MA English '12, *Ross, California*

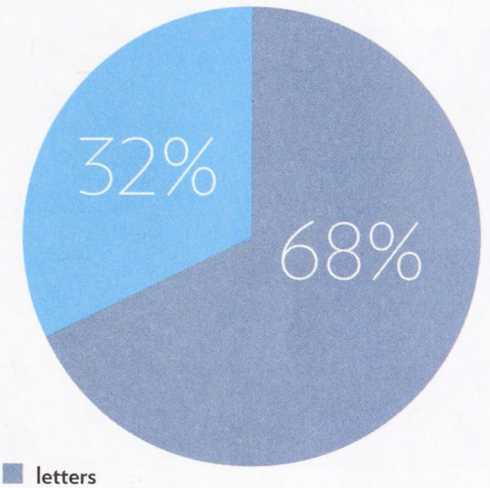
NO COINCIDENCES

It's interesting to think about John's influence on my life as an English teacher and as someone whose need for green also defines me.

Now "retired" as well, I entirely relate to the opening of possibilities it brings. My final year at Bread Loaf capped 10 amazing summers of loving literature, and John's course on Robert Frost proved the highlight in many ways. We

Mail Bag Love and admiration for John Elder filled our letters coffer this issue, as responses to "John Elder Turns the Page" competed with "Why Do Americans Distrust Science?" as the most commented-on piece from the fall issue.

HOW YOU CHOOSE TO TALK



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LETTER WRITERS WHO HAD A BAD THING TO SAY ABOUT JOHN ELDER

1

LETTER FROM SOMEONE WHO GOT THE MAGAZINE BY MISTAKE—GOOD FORTUNE, HE CALLED IT

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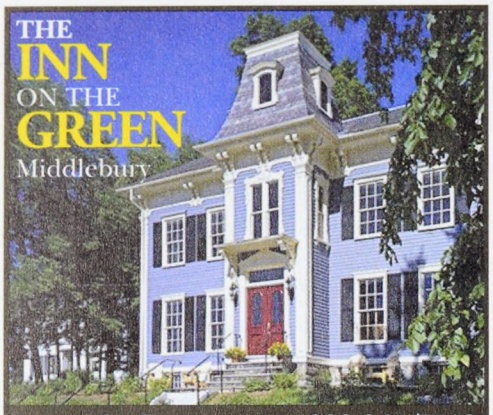
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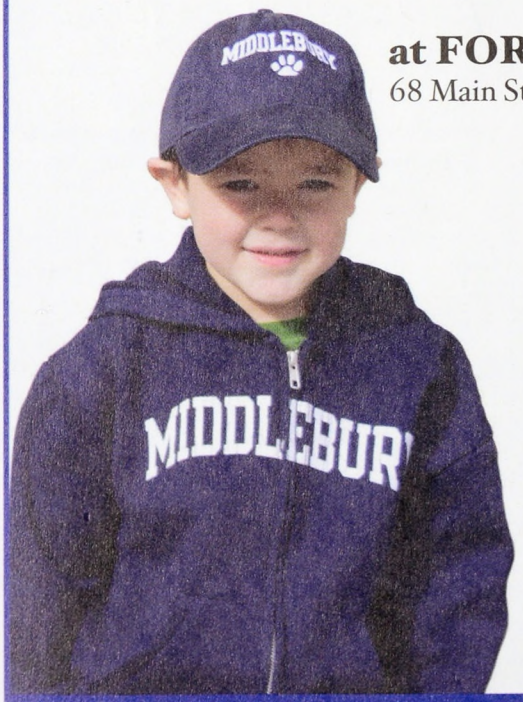
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share an interest in things Japan, including Basho, and reading this fine article followed a morning of substituting in an English class today where I happened to be thinking and pondering along with students about the flow of connections between Frost and Basho and Zen. Not a coincidence, actually. Thanks for the many and continuing realizations, John.
—Wally Ingebritson, MA English '97, *Commenting on middmag.com*

MY SENSE, AS WELL

Thank you for this wonderful story about John Elder. I remember meetings with him where he would begin his commentary with "My sense is . . ." He had such a gentle way of guiding a student to a different perspective. He was and is an inspiration, and I think of him and his methods often as I stand up in front of my own classes.
—Deb Tripp Budden '85, *Commenting on middmag.com*

QUITE A LEGACY

Scott Russell Sanders wrote an inspirational story about a great teacher-poet-leader, who clearly has left a legacy for us all and continues to do so by the way he lives his daily life.
—SuZanne Curtis, *Commenting on middmag.com*

THE DANGER OF THE DEFICIT MODEL

Matt Jennings's piece "Why Do Americans Distrust Science?" (fall 2016) struck a chord—especially now that Oxford Dictionaries' word of 2016 is "post-truth." However, the discussion was still mostly organized around "the deficit model"—the idea that the problem is that the general public simply does not know or understand . . . and if they did know, then their distrust (or discomfort or denial) of science would disappear. It makes sense to us liberally educated heirs of the Enlightenment. However, if we know anything from our interactions with the public over the years, it is how wrong the deficit model is.

Researchers in several fields—including science communication, moral philosophy, education policy, climate studies—have engaged this problem. What surprises academics—that data, evidence, and analysis are insufficient for public acceptance of science—is fairly well established. The bad news (for science) is that "truth" encompasses a lot more than evidence. In essence, all this research tells us that people will vote or support (or oppose) certain policies based on a complex and multidimensional perspective in which the scientific evidence plays a small, often minor, role.

Our reliance on the deficit model is one ma-

jor reason for our failure to convince much of the public of the validity of scientific research. As science communicators, we may never be able to convince people to accept science if we do not get help in addressing these other dimensions. Perhaps Hamlet was right: "There are more things in Heaven and Earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy." It seems we need to turn the deficit model around and look at what we in the scientific community are lacking in understanding about how to reach the public.

—AJ Petto '72, *Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

The writer is a senior lecturer in the department of biological sciences at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.

GOOD FORTUNE

While I have no connection to Middlebury College, your magazine somehow found its way to my mailbox through some accident or malfunction of man or machine. I consider this to be good fortune, as I subsequently discovered a very excellent presentation of a complex and vexing topic in our society ("Why Do Americans Distrust Science?"). I am now more focused and better prepared to discuss the topic with the nonbelievers (climate-change deniers) and exceptionalists (parents who don't immunize their children).

Thank you for the effort to explore and explain our world.

—Ed Leszek, *On the Shores of Lake Erie*

THE FOCUS IS OFF

I have to disagree with Matt Jennings's claim in "Why Do Americans Distrust Science?" that he "understand[s] how to write a strong opening." In an article allegedly about the disconnect between the American public and American scientists, Mr. Jennings chooses to open with an anecdote quoting conservative pundits who are skeptical of government data on hurricanes because they believe the government has an interest in promoting the link between climate change and extreme weather. While such cynical punditry does nothing to shorten the gap between scientific and public knowledge, the anecdote, likewise, does nothing to illuminate the gap itself: it's about distrust of government, not science.

Moreover, the article claims that this gap is increasing: "that the American public and American scientists have drifted far apart in their perception of vital scientific issues." The piece then wades into epistemological waters that are justifiably too deep for an alumni magazine to swim, and does little to back up the initial claim of the increasing gap and its dangers. One exception is a paragraph that Jennings admits only touches "on the subject of trust" and questions whether the rise of recent populist politics (of both the Trump and Sanders variety) signals a growing distrust of government and thus science. Herein lies the unwritten article for which Mr. Jennings provides a strong opening.

—Drew Bennett '02, *Washington, District of Columbia*

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Kudos to Matt Jennings for his excellent article "Why Do Americans Distrust Science?" that showed how the American public has become disconnected from scientific thinking. Another example: Students can (and do) graduate from Middlebury College without taking a single natural science course.

—Noah Graham, *Middlebury, Vermont*

The writer is a professor of physics at Middlebury.

A GRATEFUL READER

I was drawn to Matt Jennings's story entitled "Why Do Americans Distrust Science?" and I wanted to express my gratitude as a reader and member of the Middlebury community.

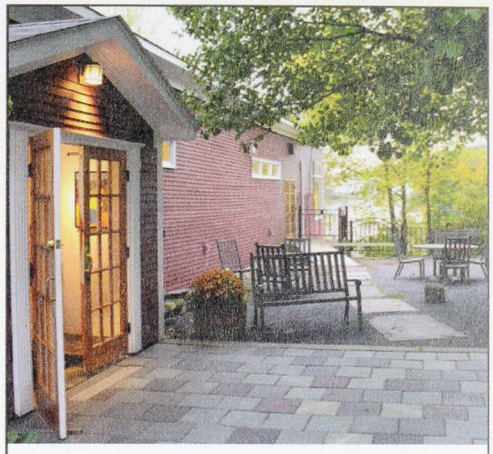
I found the article to be very engaging, and it has sparked a great deal of fragmented writing on my part over the last two days. At Middlebury, I was a physics major and though I don't yet know what career path I want to pursue, I am very interested in the nature of science education and scientific thinking. I am also currently a volunteer presenter at the Franklin Institute science museum in Philadelphia, so it is a topic I have thought about very often lately. It has caused me to think deeply and meaningfully about my personal science education and experience, as well as my role at the institute as a mediator between the scientific community and the public.

—Gus Longo '16, *Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

CORRUPTION AT THE ROOT

Reading Matt Jennings's story reminded me of a book I recently read: *Science for Sale*, by Dr. David Lewis. Lewis worked at the EPA for 30 years, before being forced out. He writes that in the early part of his career at the EPA, the science dictated government policy. In the 1990s, this began to change, and now government policy dictates the science. If the scientific studies done by government agencies do not validate government policy, the results of the studies are altered before they are published.

The scientific corruption extends across many government agencies. One of the more



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egregious examples of the revolving door between special interests and the federal government is Michael Taylor, who started his career in the Carter administration as executive assistant to the FDA commissioner, followed by work at King & Spalding, attorneys for Monsanto. During the Bush 41 administration, he moved back to the FDA as a deputy commissioner. Subsequently he transferred to the Department of Agriculture during the Clinton administration, then worked for Monsanto as a vice president. Since 2009, he has been back at the FDA under the Obama administration. During these 40 years, he has worked assiduously to further the interests of Monsanto, and the presumed safety of GMO foods.

Another example is detailed by Marc Edwards, the Virginia Tech civil-engineering professor who uncovered the existence of lead in the water in Flint, Michigan, last fall. In an interview in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, he stated, "I am very concerned about the culture of academia in this country and the perverse incentives that are given to young faculty. The pressures to get funding are just extraordinary . . . and the idea of science as a public good is being lost."

In your article, Professor Grasswick states, "Sound policy making needs to be based on sound science." When the science is being altered to reflect a point of view, it is no longer science, and no longer to be trusted.

—Lucy Beckley Cole '62, *Los Angeles, California*

A CRITIQUE OF SCIENTISM

In response to the story "Why Do Americans Distrust Science?" allow me to say that I believe unchecked global warming will create an existential threat to many millions of people in this century, and there is plenty of evidence that humans are the major contributors to greenhouse gases—through fossil fuels, multiplied livestock, deforestation.

I also accept the progression of life through the ages, but I am skeptical of whether humans evolved from primates merely by natural selection. I'm even more skeptical that fish evolved into reptiles and then into mammals. And I reserve my greatest skepticism for the evolution of invertebrates into vertebrates by natural selection alone when there's no fossil evidence of any viable, transitional creatures—only complete ones of each kingdom, phyla, etc.

I would observe that science has become more than a method of empirically testing and validating phenomena in our world. It represents a worldview that has usurped for itself more than is justified by its reliance on empirical observations. In the past two centuries, scientism has risen to be the de facto worldview of most scientists. I see scientism as just one more philosophical attack against the Judeo-Christian worldview that guided the rise of Western civilization. Where man is the center, nothing is certain, and nothing is fully trustworthy.

Scientism has leapt from Darwin's theory found in *On the Origin of Species* to buttress a philosophical rejection of God as the Creator and source of all existence, of life, and of humanity's supreme worth as beings made in God's image. Atheists like Richard Dawkins, Sam Harris, and the late Christopher Hitchens have recently led this attack. But as one critic ironically concluded: "If they are right and theists are wrong, neither will know it after they die." The best an atheist can offer anyone after death is nothing; the Bible promises us the best that an infinitely wise and good God can offer as beloved members of God's royal family forever. Which worldview do you think offers a better payoff?

I see weaknesses of the scientism worldview and its attending consequences, and my

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critique can be summed up in fewer than 30 words: "The universe's, the Earth's, and life's manifold perfections cannot be the outcome of thoughtless chance; therefore, they must be the work of a supremely wise, powerful, and loving Creator."

—Henri Fischer '76, *Monroe, Washington*

THREE CHEERS FOR FRANK

I enjoyed reading the illustrated tribute to Frank Punderson '55, the father of Middlebury soccer, in the fall issue. As a member of that first undefeated varsity team, I can testify that Frank was not only an accomplished player, but also a terrific coach and leader.

Our success was not because of superior skills, but rather because Frank taught us, by his example, the value of hard work and desire. We simply beat our opponents to the ball almost every time. The only goal I ever scored was when I rushed hard at a goalkeeper, who fumbled an easy save, allowing me to sweep the ball into the net.

One caveat: I doubt that Frank was driving around reffing games in a Model A Ford, a car that was produced in the late 1920s. We're old, but not *that* old!

—Ed Ferman '58, *West Cornwall, Connecticut*

AW, SHUCKS

I'd just like to say how much I enjoy reading *Middlebury Magazine*. It is by far the best college or university magazine I have seen or received—the organization, the content, the paper, everything about it is terrific!

—Mary Lessing-Evans, MA Spanish '51, *Skillman, New Jersey*

R-E-S-P-E-C-T

In the fall issue, G. Tod Slone wrote a letter stating that Middlebury needs an Office of Democracy rather than an Office of Diversity, because "only vigorous debate and more speech will succeed in diminishing racism." Free speech and vigorous debate are doubtless useful in solving any problem, but how they are carried on will probably have the most influence on reducing racism and prejudice. Any debate or conversation must start with the participants respecting each other and being willing to empathize with other's feelings, no matter how repugnant they may be. That is a tall order for privileged students who were raised in systems where they have always been praised, always were given As and never failed. It is also a tall order for professors used to teaching critical thinking where only ideas are discussed. And it is a tall order indeed for a black student subject to being stopped by the police because of his race. Maybe a first col-

lege experience, orientation if you will, should try to teach humility, respect, and putting yourself in the other student's shoes.
—Dave Corkran '57, *Portland, Oregon*

A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE

G. Tod Slone took exception to my letter about race, which was published in the summer 2016 issue of *Middlebury Magazine*. In particular, he found offense in my statement: "What I've seen and learned through the years is that white people just need to get over themselves." To Mr. Slone, this was an "egregious racist stereotype." He argued that

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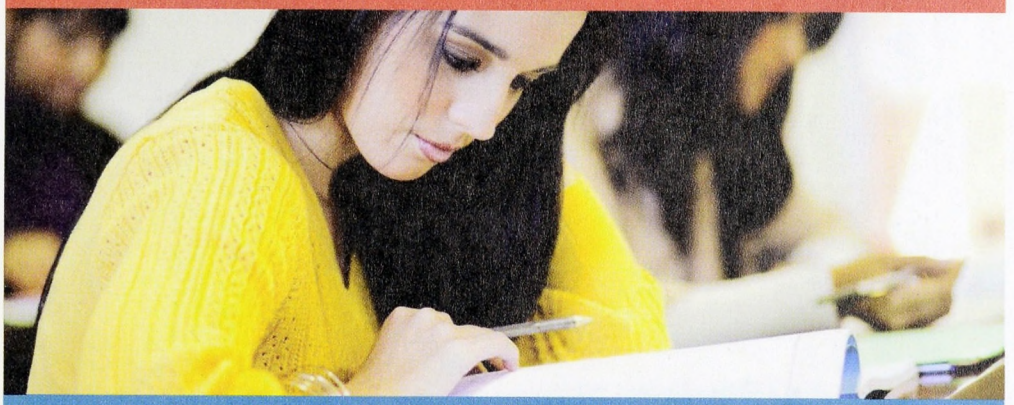

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if he had said "black people need to get over themselves," many would rightfully object. To Mr. Slone, this is a double standard.

To which I reply: If black people had been the majority in this country and run it on the basis of black privilege and enslaved, hated, abused, and stolen opportunity from the white minority for our entire national history and then put off a reckoning with that history and its legacies because such conversations made the black majority "uncomfortable"—in that parallel universe I certainly would say black people need to get over themselves. But we live in this universe.

—Erskine (Kim) White '73, *Hendersonville, Tennessee*

TAKING A STAND

Some 60 years ago, our classmate, Carol Van Duyn Terhune '57, led her sorority sisters in resigning from their sorority because of discriminatory membership requirements in the sorority's national charter. (Carol thoughtfully shared credit for this action with her sorority sisters and Jean Squire '56.)

In the winter of 1956, Carol and her sisters turned off the lights and locked the door of the sorority house and gave the keys to Dean Kelly.

The press caught wind of the story, and Carol spent hours on the dormitory hallway pay phone explaining to reporters what had happened. Our 60th Class Reunion in June gives us the opportunity to belatedly honor Carol for her courage, resolve, and leadership in confronting institutional discrimination in the national sorority/fraternity systems at Middlebury in the 1950s.

Further, I believe it would be a valuable contribution for the Middlebury Archives if those of us who participated and observed this story unfolding could join Carol in recounting events.

—Charlie Sykes '57, *Reston, Virginia*

LETTERS POLICY

Letters addressing topics discussed in the magazine are given priority, though they may be edited for brevity or clarity. On any given subject we will print letters that address that subject, and then in the next issue, letters that respond to the first. After that, we will move on to new subjects. Send letters to: *Middlebury Magazine*, 152 College Street, Middlebury, VT 05753 or middmag@middlebury.edu.

UpFront

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25 Q&A

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30 Map

Several hundred members of the Middlebury community demonstrated in solidarity with undocumented students across the country. See story on p. 26. Photo by Robert Keren

What We're Talking About

After Middlebury's **Student Government Association** unanimously passed a resolution asking the College to raise both a banner and flag of the Black Lives Matter movement on campus, campus facilities staff hung a Black Lives Matter banner on the McCullough Student Center, where it remained until the end of the fall semester. In a message to the community, the Middlebury administration said it was "taking this step to show its support for the Black Student Union and for all students of color at Middlebury, to acknowledge the particular challenges they confront, to honor the vital and varied contributions they make, and to affirm that there is no membership in this community other than full membership."

The Athletics Hall of Fame inducted six new members: Olympic skier **Gordi Eaton '62**; hoopster **Tom Hart '56**, the leading rebounder in the history of collegiate basketball; **Donald Henderson '49**, national champion skier and former Olympic coach; **Kristy Laramee Kerin '01**, three-time NCAA high jump champion; **Bobo Sheehan '44**, national championship ski coach and three-sport athlete at Middlebury; and **Sara McNealus Radamus '79**, NCAA champ in the giant slalom.

A pair of beloved emeriti faculty—**David Littlefield** and **John Spencer**—died. Littlefield was the Stewart Professor Emeritus of English and Spencer the African Studies Emeritus Professor of History (and a former trustee). They taught for 39 and 25 years, respectively, and inspired generations of students. Full obituaries can be found on pages 89 and 91.

Happy 200th, **Painter Hall**. One of Middlebury's oldest buildings celebrated its bicentennial in 2016. Named for one of the College's founding fathers, Gamaliel Painter, the limestone building has housed, over the years, a library, classrooms, offices, the school's first gymnasium, and, since the early 20th century, student dorm rooms. Painter is the oldest college building in Vermont and can be found on the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places.

Hasher Nisar '16.5, a political science major who grew up in both the United States and Pakistan, has been awarded the prestigious Marshall Scholarship, which will support two years of graduate study at Oxford. Nisar is just the fifth Middlebury student awarded a Marshall Scholarship since the program's founding in 1954. He plans on pursuing a Master of Philosophy in Islamic studies and history while at Oxford.

A clear Vermont night in mid-November was the perfect canvas for the supermoon to strut its stuff. That evening the moon was as close to the Earth as it had been in more than 60 years—since January 26, 1948, to be exact. **Jonathan Kemp**, a telescope specialist in Middlebury's observatory, explained to *Real Simple* magazine why the moon looked so darn big this time. "The moon's orbit is not a circle, but rather an ellipse, just as with the planets," Kemp said. "On average, the moon is about 239,000 miles away from the Earth. When it is at perigee, or its closest point to Earth, it can be about 225,000 miles away. When this happens during full moon, the apparent size of the moon, as seen from Earth, appears to increase."

Former U.S. Poet Laureate **Billy Collins** delighted a Mead Chapel audience in early December, as he displayed his noted wit and finely tuned ability to articulate observations of everyday life during an afternoon poetry reading. Collins called upon his full oeuvre—poems filled with humor and poignancy and provocation—which elicited a range of emotions, the most lasting being one of affection, for the poet and the world he describes.

An essay published in Middlebury's ***New England Review*** was among 23 pieces included in the 2016 edition of the anthology Best American Essays. The work by Jill Sisson Quinn is titled "Big Night" and focuses on the seemingly incongruous subjects of the adoption of a child and a lifelong fascination with salamanders.

A **ball python**, estimated to be about three feet, went missing on campus for a month or so—the slithery fella disappeared from a suite in the new Ridgeline residences just before Thanksgiving. The illicit campus pet with disputed ownership—the student who lost possession of the snake claimed she was keeping it for a friend—was known to roam free around its human's room. Apparently this didn't bother people much until it up and vanished. While not considered dangerous to people, the elusive python caused much angst, annoyance, and frustration among Ridgeline residents and Middlebury administrators, alike. Strangely, the python was discovered in December in the very suite from which it originally vanished.

Middlebury has offered 343 students early admission to the **Class of 2021**. The admitted students were chosen from a pool of 673 applicants—an increase of 6.5 percent over last year—and represent about 51 percent of a class that is expected to total about 705. The College deferred 60 applicants, who will be considered for regular admission in the spring, and denied admission to 270 students.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY LORIS LORA

Q & A

Who I Am

GABBIE SANTOS '17 IS AN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS AND ECONOMICS MAJOR who hails from the Philippines (the municipality of Silang in the province of Cavite, specifically). In November, he was selected as the student speaker for the annual TEDxMiddlebury event, the theme of which was "Playing the Game."

In an 18-minute presentation titled "Go Big and Call Home," Gabbie spoke about his experiences as a transgender male and expressed the hope that the audience would "think critically about the consequences of 'winning,' and to see that everyone is playing the game. Perhaps by raising our consciousness and questioning what we do to fit ourselves into this scheme," he said, "we can find agency in rewriting the rules of this game that we play." At its conclusion, he received a standing ovation. He recently spoke with Matt Jennings about the occasion.

I understand that going into the student speaker competition, you gave yourself more motivation than just winning a slot.
That's right. I told myself that if I was selected, I would come out to my parents, and *that* decision gave my 18-minute talk more personal meaning.

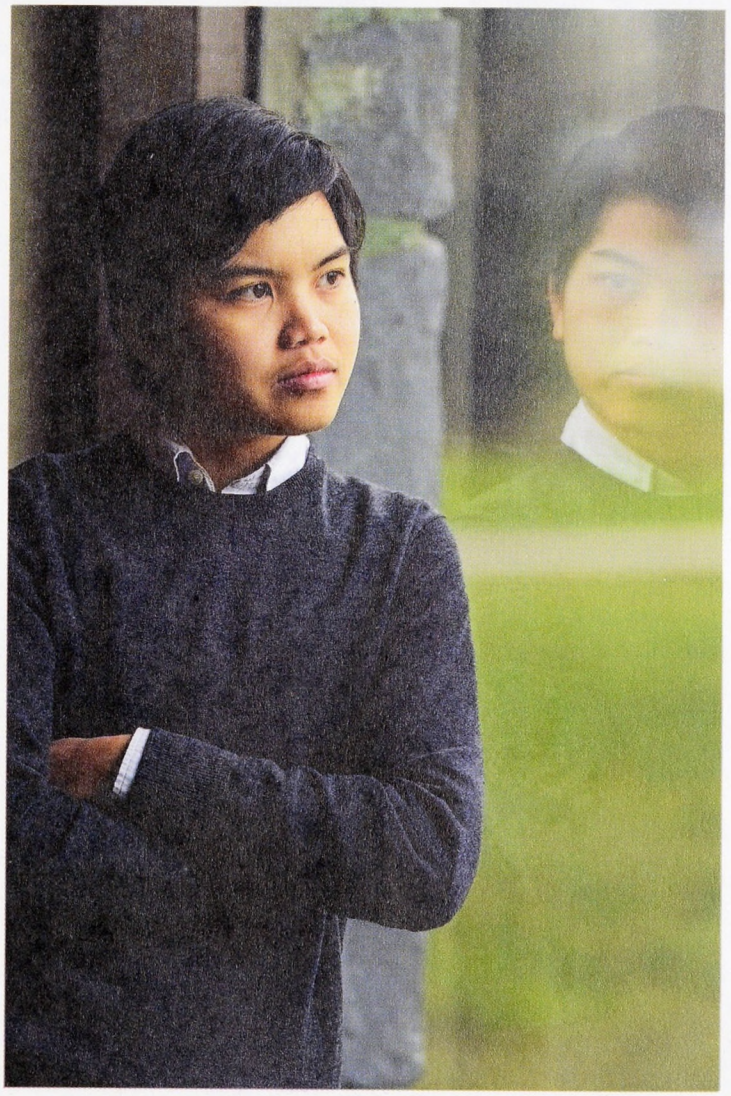
Was there any point that you doubted whether that was the right thing to do?
Come out to my parents? No, I didn't doubt it because it had been eight years since we had talked about this topic and every summer I go home, I had been asking myself, you know . . .

Is this the time?
Yes. And, you know, it just didn't feel fair to speak to a broader audience about my identity without telling my parents first.

What did they say?
They weren't surprised. They still love and accept me. So, for the most part, it went well. There are some things we still have to talk about, mostly with regards to transitioning.

What was the reaction on campus?
I was very humbled by how warm the audience was. They were—it just felt like some people in the room were my friends, and so I was expecting to feel that support, but in the days following, there would be people who would come up to me and say, "You know, that was a really good talk. Thank you for sharing."

I imagine it gave others courage to have those difficult conversations, or to at least think about how they want to be perceived.
I would like to think so. One thing I tried to do at the end of my talk was to make it clear that this isn't just a transgender issue or an LGBTQ issue. It's every single one of us; we're tied to these gender norms and expectations from society. It's just that I have become so much more cognizant of that just because of the way I have to, you know, play the game.



Do you envision a time when you don't have to play the game anymore?
I guess when I reach the point in my transition that I feel comfortable, maybe that will be analogous to "winning"? But at the same time, there's always this question of how can I deny my past? I can't; it's part of my life. I think where I'm at right now is trying to be kind to that person, to remember that person, while also moving forward with being who I want to be.

It strikes me that you are in tune to the human condition in a way that not everyone your age is.
My parents definitely played a part. School played a part. Where I went to school, there was a strong emphasis on what is called "servant leadership," this idea of forming leaders, not to become superior, but really to be of service to others, and that's stuck with me since.

I get the sense that you will become a role model for a lot of people.
It's very kind of you to say that. When the topic of LGBTQ and identity started to come between me and my parents, they would tell me, "People look up to you. You have to recognize that." And there wasn't value judgment per se, but one thing I told them when we had this recent conversation was: Don't worry. I am very much appreciated by my community.

PHOTO BY PAUL DAHM

DOWNLOAD

Why I Love the Bur Oak

By Tim Parsons, Landscape Horticulturalist

It's early winter, the time of year Vermonters despairingly call "stick season." I'm more optimistic, though; the leaves are off trees as long as they are on, and there's beauty and work in all seasons.

Arborists understand leaves don't fall but are sucked dry of every ounce of sugar, then thrown off, trees bravely showing their strength and structure to the world. This structure for most trees on campus is fairly businesslike, with even, predictable branches coming off a straight trunk. Close your eyes and picture a leafless tree, and it's probably a sugar maple, an oval, symmetrical crown against a cold winter sky.

I close my eyes, and I see oak. A bur oak, more specifically, a 200-plus-year-old survivor next to the Mahaney Center for the Arts (similar to the oak pictured above). Oaks branch seemingly randomly, with large scaffold limbs like biceps low on the trunk, and a veritable maze of twig and branch above. I stare upward and get lost in the complexity of the crown.

In the landscape department we spend the winter pruning trees, primarily removing large pieces of deadwood from the upper crown while attached to ropes. We climb to the very top and work our way down. I haven't pruned this bur oak; it's almost too special, certainly too large for my skill level and flexibility. Plus, if I climb it, what's left? I will have ascended the largest tree on campus.

I'll be up there this winter, though. Explaining my hesitation to an arborist friend, he looked at me, saying, "Well, you know, you could die tomorrow, too. I wouldn't wait."

NEWS

Undocumented, Supported

On a raw November afternoon, several hundred Middlebury students, faculty, and staff assembled in front of Old Chapel to participate in a demonstration of solidarity for undocumented students across the country. On a makeshift stage, and without amplification, seniors Austin Kahn and Jessica Gutierrez implored the crowd to speak up and make their voices heard in support of undocumented members of the College community.

The students were joining peers at similar demonstrations at dozens of colleges and universities across the country as part of a national walkout for "sanctuary campuses," which aimed to promote awareness of undocumented students and create policies to protect them from deportation proceedings.

"An imminent Trump presidency puts undocumented members of the Middlebury College community in unprecedented risk," Kahn told the crowd. "And the College community is responding, as you can tell by this enormous, beautiful crowd of people."

At issue is the immigration policy known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), which was passed by President Obama as an executive action in 2012. The order allows certain undocumented immigrants to the United States who entered the country before their 16th birthday and before June 2007 to receive a renewable two-year work permit and exemption from deportation. DACA confers non-immigrant legal status but does not provide a path to citizenship. President-elect Trump has signaled he plans to repeal all executive actions taken by Obama, including DACA, which impacts nearly 730,000 individuals, according to U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services.

"We can have a voice as a cohesive group," Gutierrez told her fellow students. "We can say, 'Okay, this is not right. This is not right to keep criminalizing and stigmatizing what an undocumented person is, what an immigrant is.' We definitely need to branch out, mobilize, and unite!"

In addition to several student speakers, two faculty members added their voices to the lineup. Jumping up on the table that served as a stage, Kemi Fuentes-George drew laughs then cheers when he said, "I used to be an activist, then I became a professor. Now, I gotta go back to being an activist again." The assistant professor of political science said that many of the rights Americans enjoy, from environmental protections to reproductive freedoms, are under attack. "And we are here today because of our concern about our human rights.

"We have the opportunity to stand against the cruel program of deportations that [the Trump Administration] has said it wanted implemented starting day one," said Fuentes-George. "These deportations will affect our students, our friends, our colleagues, employees, and people who contribute to the fabric of this society. This is not acceptable!"

Less than a week later, President Laurie Patton affirmed Middlebury's support for all undocumented students, writing in a message to the community: "Middlebury is and will remain unwaveringly committed to providing educational opportunities to students without regard to nationality, place of birth, immigration status, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or economic status. We also support the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which allows undocumented individuals who arrived in the United States as children to remain in the country without fear of deportation."

Patton concluded her message by announcing a pair of initiatives: Beginning next year Middlebury will evaluate applications from undocumented prospective students under the school's need-blind admissions policy with a commitment to meet full demonstrated financial need; and Middlebury will increase the amount of pro bono legal assistance it makes available to students at the College and the Institute to assist with immigration and travel-related questions and issues.

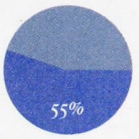
At the end November, Middlebury's president joined more than 500 college and university presidents across the country in signing a statement in support of DACA and undocumented immigrant students.

—Stephen Diehl

PHOTO BY BRETT SIMISON

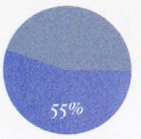
Let's Dance

With 11 majors, the Dance Department may be one of the smaller departments at Middlebury, yet it maintains an outsized presence on campus. From artistic performances to interdisciplinary collaboration, dance impacts student and community life at Middlebury in myriad ways.



Percentage of dance majors who are seniors

Percentage of dance majors who are international students



Percentage of dance majors who are joint or double majors

201

Students enrolled in a dance course in 2016–17

12

Visiting dance artists spending time at the College in 2016–17

17

Public dance performances in 2016–17

Everyone Can Dance
Intro to Dance, an entry-level course, is the most popular dance class offered by the College. Other student favorites include From Africa to Americas, Body & Earth, and Ethics/Aesthetics/Body.

The Company
The Dance Company of Middlebury in 2016–17 consists of eight students, and participation is considered as a credit-bearing course. During winter term, the company traveled to Mazatlán, Mexico, part of a cultural exchange with the Mazatlán Professional School of Dance.

Movement Matters
A grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has helped fund a 44-month institutional program that brings together dancers and faculty from across the curriculum in an effort to complement scholarly interests with embodied learning. To date, 12 academic departments and four student orgs have participated in Movement Matters.

PHOTO BY ALAN KIMARA DIXON

NEWS

Achieving Carbon Neutrality

As 2016 drew to a close, Middlebury announced that it had achieved a major sustainability milestone years in the making. What this means is that the institution now has a net-zero carbon footprint—it has balanced the amount of carbon emissions it releases with an equivalent amount sequestered or offset.

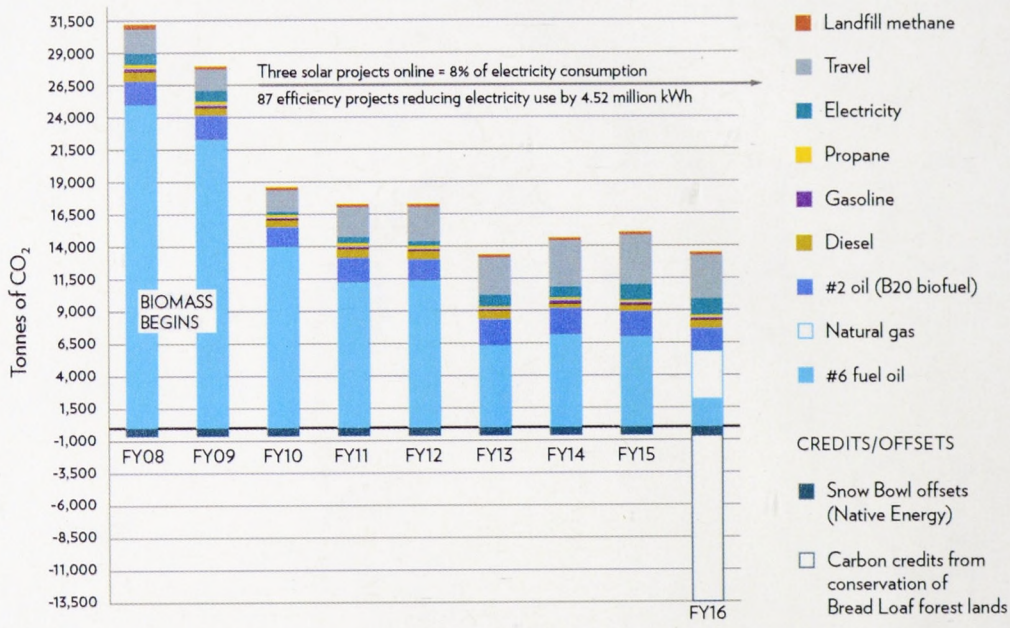
The quest for carbon neutrality began in 2001 when Middlebury completed its "Environmental Peak Report," following a year of strategic planning. One of the report's eight priorities was a recommendation that Middlebury set a carbon neutrality goal. That same year, a student intern conducted Middlebury's first-ever emissions inventory in conjunction with the organization Clean Air–Cool Planet, laying the foundation for measuring carbon emissions on campus. By the following year, Middlebury's Environmental Council had mapped out its first Carbon Reduction Initiative (CRI), setting in motion a multiyear data-collecting and planning process by students, staff, faculty, and administrators. The CRI working group recommended what it felt was an achievable goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 8 percent below 1990 levels by 2012.

When it became clear that the first goal was reachable—thanks to trustee approval of a new biomass gasification plant—a group of students sought a more ambitious goal of reaching carbon neutrality by 2016. They brought their proposal to then-president Ron Liebowitz in 2006.

Liebowitz, who championed the carbon neutrality cause while demanding intellectual rigor from students, said he's incredibly proud that Middlebury met a goal that, early on, sometimes felt like "a shot in the dark"—and that the achievement speaks to both the enthusiasm of students and the receptiveness of administrators and trustees to chase a lofty goal.

In 2007, the trustees adopted a resolution for Middlebury to become carbon neutral by 2016. "The path to carbon neutrality created new opportunities for learning and research at the College, and students have been involved at every step of the way," said Nan Jenks-Jay, dean of environmental affairs. "The process of meeting this challenge created a community ethos of collaboration and ingenuity that is at the heart of what we do as an institution deeply invested in environmental education."

CARBON EMISSIONS, 2008-16



Technical innovation played a crucial role on the road to carbon neutrality. The first, and biggest, step forward came with the construction of the College's groundbreaking biomass facility in 2008. The plant was the first of its kind—serial number 001, as Director of Facilities Services Mike Moser puts it. It allowed the College to radically reduce the two million gallons of No. 6 fuel oil burned annually.

The biomass plant was designed to replace half of that fuel. Now Middlebury has cut its No. 6 fuel oil consumption down from two million gallons to 600,000 gallons. Instead, some 24,000 tons of locally sourced wood chips come through the biomass plant each year. (Middlebury's biomass is considered carbon neutral because the forests that supply it are growing faster than what's harvested, thereby absorbing more carbon than what's emitted by burning wood chips.)

And while biomass has played a key role in achieving carbon neutrality, dozens of smaller initiatives have also made an impact. During the last 14 years, Middlebury has completed 87 projects with Efficiency Vermont, investing roughly $1.5 million. As a result, Middlebury now saves $636,000—and 4.52 million kilowatt-hours—annually. Middlebury is also a partner in three solar projects that produce (or will produce, in the case of a final project coming online before the end of the year) roughly 8 percent of the campus's total electricity load.

The final step came in the form of a landmark deal to conserve in perpetuity 2,100 acres of forestland on Middlebury's Bread Loaf Mountain campus in Ripton, Vermont. By conserving the Bread Loaf lands, Middlebury can count the carbon sequestration of the preserved forest toward its carbon reduction efforts, rather than purchasing credits elsewhere.

Having snatched the low-hanging fruit with existing efficiency upgrades, Moser said his team will continue to look for places to save energy. Middlebury is also continuing to investigate participation in a project to build a facility that would turn cow manure and other organic fuel into renewable natural gas, a step that could further cut back the use of fuel oil and compressed natural gas on campus.

—Stephen Diehl

INFOGRAPHIC BY ARI TERKEL

QUOTATION

"People who come up with scientific ideas impart some of their own experiences. So scientists look at the truth with a certain lens, and it's important to try to diversify what that lens is, so that we can get different perspectives. That's when you really start to get the truth, when you see it from different angles."

—**Lesley-Ann Giddings**, assistant professor of biochemistry, speaking on a campus panel of faculty and students that addressed the topic "Envisioning Feminist Science at Middlebury."

ARCHIVE

DONOR ROLL

In the early years, Middlebury College relied on gifts and donations to build its library collection. While holdings were typically recorded by date of acquisition, the early 19th-century volume "Donors to Middlebury College Library," above, instead lists them by donor—an acknowledgment that the people who contributed to the library's collection were no less important than the collection itself.

Page 2 is devoted entirely to Professor Frederick Hall, who was hired in 1806 during the tenure of the College's first president, Jeremiah Atwater. Hall's enthusiastic efforts to acquire both books and scientific instruments for the College were so appreciated that in 1809 the town and College together offered him a salary double that of Atwater. Atwater promptly resigned.

NUMBERS

Forty-nine years ago, the College's Education Policy Committee found the wisdom to propose a four-week winter term, in which students would "experience the challenge of sustained absorption in a single endeavor." And for nearly half a century, a Middlebury January has featured snow, cold, a bit of skiing, and a terrifically innovative curriculum.

120

COURSES OFFERED—119 IN VERMONT AND 1 IN MONTEREY—IN WINTER TERM 2017

18

VISITING ALUMNI TEACHING WINTER TERM COURSES

22

COURSES CLASSIFIED AS INTERDEPARTMENTAL

1

WINTER TERM COURSES ABOUT BOB DYLAN'S AMERICA

12

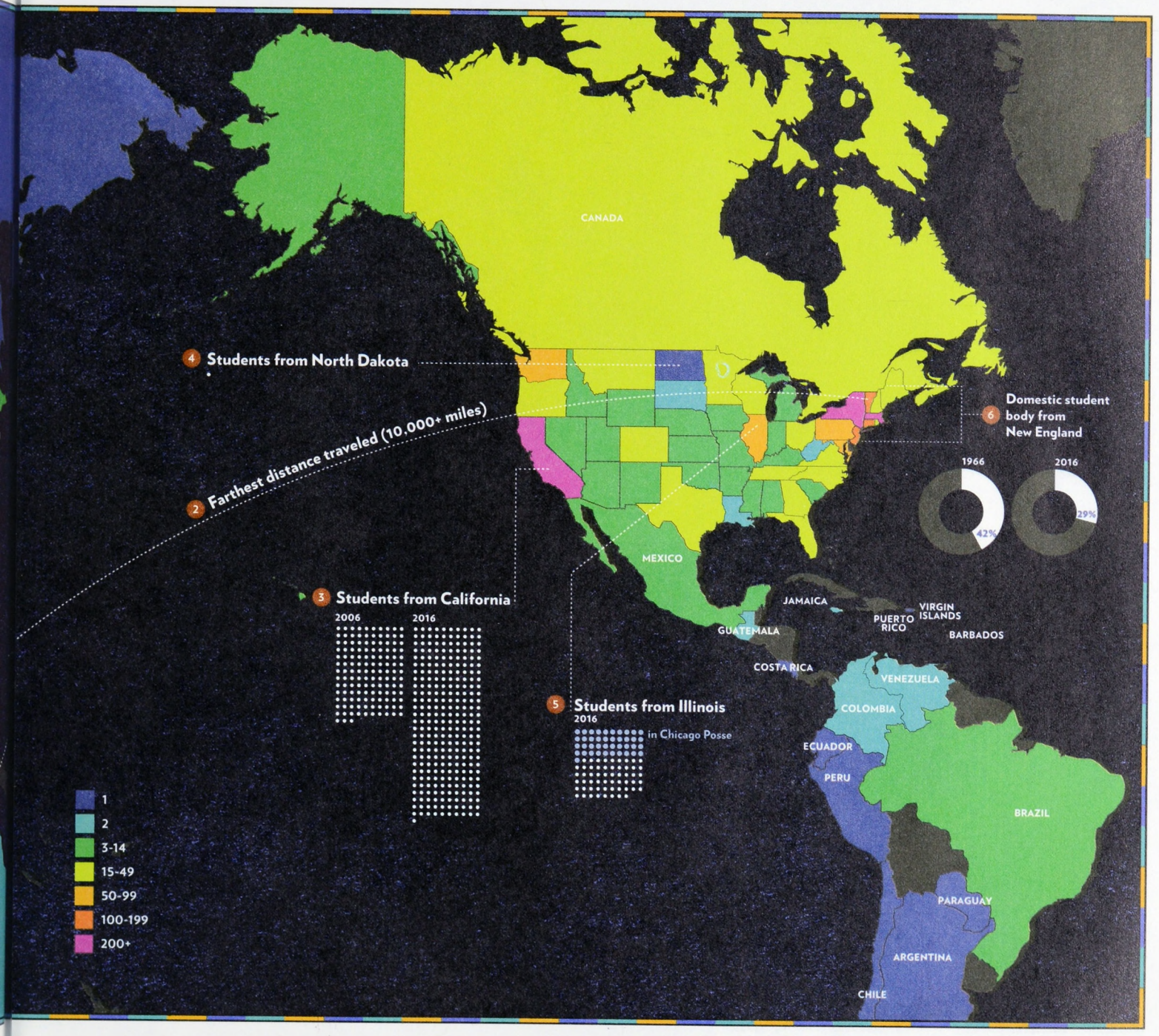
LANGUAGE COURSES OFFERED—ARABIC, CHINESE, SPANISH, PORTUGUESE, FRENCH, GERMAN, HEBREW, RUSSIAN, ITALIAN, JAPANESE, SWAHILI, AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

PHOTO BY TODD BALFOUR

Where in the World?

In 2016–17, 2,500 Middlebury undergraduates call 49 states and 69 countries their home. We take a deeper dive beneath those figures to show you how many students come from each place—and how this may compare to past years.

ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL NEWHOUSE



1 EAST TO WEST

This academic year, more international students came to Middlebury from China (41) than from any other country. In 2003, only 11 students hailed from China, which represents a fourfold increase during that time span.

2 WAY OUTBACK

The farthest distance traveled by a Middlebury student? The 10,000-plus miles one must travel between Australia and Addison County. This academic year, two undergraduates made that journey to college.

3 THE GOLDEN STATE

During the past decade, Californians at Middlebury have more than doubled, from 133 students in 2006 to 271 students today. Undergrads from California represent currently 12 percent of the student body.

4 THE ONE

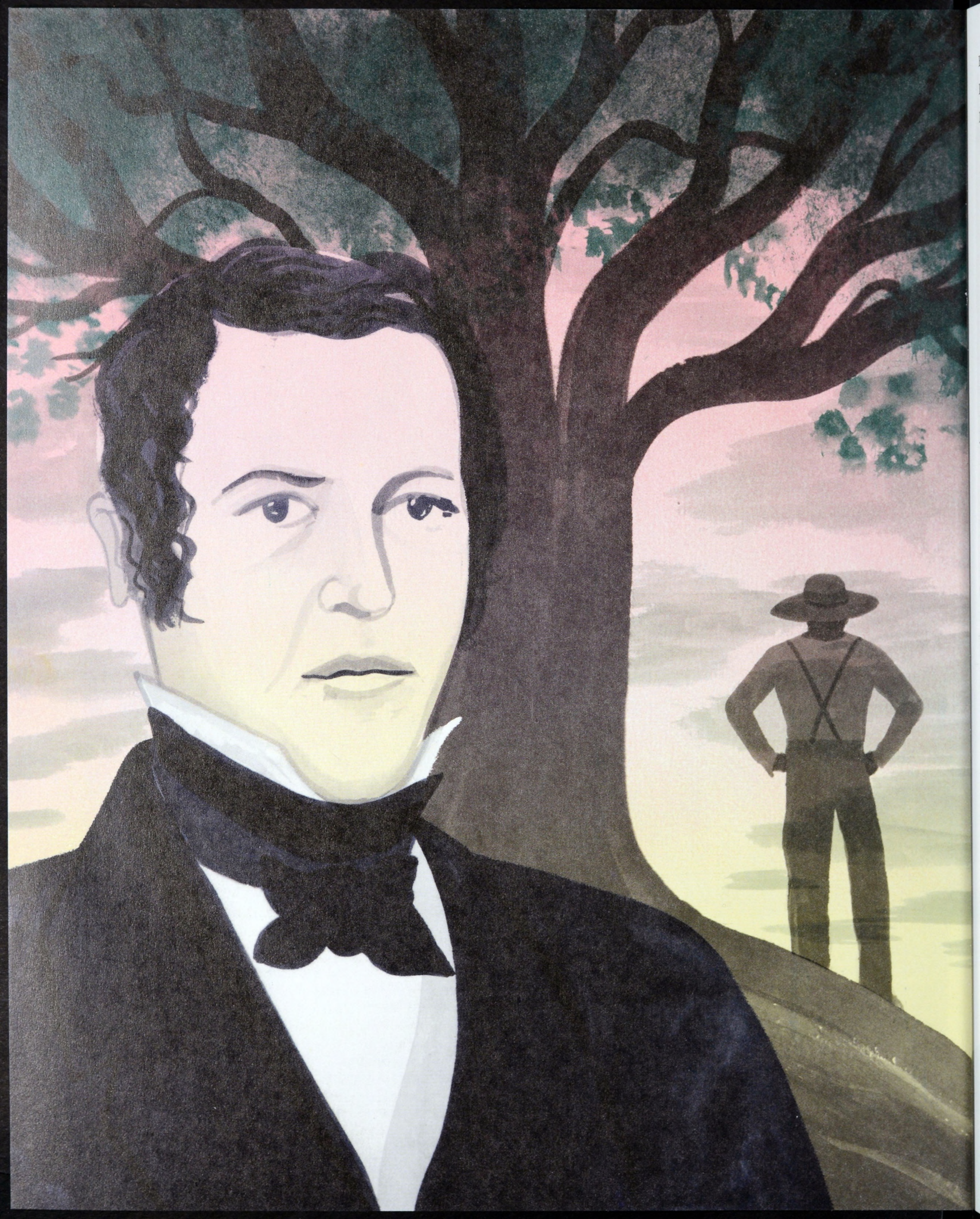
North Dakota is the lone state with just one enrolled student. The same can be said for a couple of U.S. territories—Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, each sending one undergraduate student to our college in Vermont.

5 CHICAGO POSSE

Nearly half of Middlebury's students from the state of Illinois—42 percent—are members of the Chicago Posse. The scholars are one of three Posse groups at Middlebury, joined by the New York Posse and STEM scholars from L.A.

6 GOING GLOBAL

Fifty years ago, Middlebury drew 42 percent of its student body from New England. Today, that figure has dipped below 30, with 71 percent of all undergraduates traveling to Vermont from a different part of the country—or world.



By William Hart, Associate Professor of History, and Melissa Surrette '16

Illustration by Eleanor Taylor

Maps by Dolly Holmes

Return *to* Freedom

You probably know the story of Solomon Northup, the freeborn African-American man who was sold into slavery, enduring 12 years of unimaginable horror. But what do you know about his rescuer, a member of the Middlebury Class of 1829?

Near the end of the 2013 Academy Award-winning film *Twelve Years a Slave*, the movie's protagonist, Solomon Northup, is rescued by a man named Cephus Parker, who was the owner of a dry-goods store in Saratoga Springs, New York, and who was well known to Northup and his family. In the film, Parker explains to Edwin Epps, Northup's sadistic "slave master" and owner of the steamy, sweat-drenched plantation on Bayou Boeuf in central Louisiana, that his "slave," whom Epps knows as Platt, is actually Solomon Northup, a free black man from New York. Incredulous, Epps curses and threatens Parker and Northup as the two men make their way to the carriage that drives them to safety.

On the second page of his memoir, *Twelve Years a Slave*, published in 1853, Solomon gives thanks to his actual rescuer: "Henry B. Northup, Esq., of Sandy Hill, a distinguished counselor at law, and the man to whom, under Providence, I am indebted for my present liberty, and my return to the society of my wife and children, is a relative of the family in which my forefathers were thus held to service, and from which they took the name I bear. To this fact may be attributed the persevering interest he has taken in my behalf."

Why did John Ridley, the screenwriter, and Steve McQueen, the director, choose to show Parker as Solomon's rescuer rather than Henry Bliss Northup? Perhaps Ridley and McQueen feared audiences might assume mistakenly that Henry Northup had come to claim his chattel property. After all, Solomon admits that his "forefathers" were "held to service" by the white Northups. Yet, he also refers to Henry as a "relative." This curious circumstance is the consequence of one of Henry Bliss's great-uncles, Captain Henry Northup, owning Solomon's father, Mintus, in Rhode Island during the last quarter of the 18th century. Historian William Piersen points out in *Black Yankees* that 18th-century white New Englanders typically viewed slaves as part of the family unit, as fictive kin. Additionally, although relations between whites and freed blacks in the North were generally strained in the decades following Northern emancipation at the end of the 18th century, some freedmen and freedwomen, as Joanne Melish notes in *Disowning Slavery*, expected the patronage of their former masters to continue. For years after gaining his freedom in 1798, Mintus and his family remained within the orbit of the white Northups. It is no wonder, then, that after 12 years of unlawful bondage, Solomon exclaimed upon seeing Henry Bliss standing before him on the Epps plantation on January 3, 1853, *"Henry B. Northup!* Thank God–Thank God!"

According to the authors of *Solomon Northup: The Complete Story of the Author of Twelve Years a Slave*, Henry Bliss Northup's English ancestors settled in Providence, Rhode Island, in 1643, seven years after Roger Williams founded the colony. By the end of

the American Revolution, most of the Northups, many of whom were Quaker farmers, had relocated to eastern New York state just across the Vermont border, some in Hoosick Falls near Glens Falls and others in Granville to the north. Captain Henry Northup, Henry Bliss's great-uncle, brought with him Binar, his enslaved servant girl, and Mintus, his enslaved laborer, Solomon's father.

Cheap farmland, family, and a friendly environment for slavery may have drawn Captain Henry to New York. Rhode Island terminated slavery for those born after March 1, 1784. Mintus, born between 1776 and 1778 (d. 1829), was not entitled to freedom in either Rhode Island or in New York, which passed a gradual emancipation law in 1799. Nevertheless, in his will made out in March 1797, Captain Henry stipulated that Mintus should be freed on September 1, 1798, which indeed came to pass.

At some point, Mintus married Susanna, a free woman of color described by Solomon as a "quadroon." By 1804, Mintus had taken up farming in the small Adirondack town of Minerva, where Solomon was born on July 10, 1807. Farmers from Granville settled this town in 1804, which lay about sixty miles northwest of Granville. Mintus may have been able to rely on the support of a patron there, as he had earlier relied on the white Northups.

Between 1808 and 1810, Mintus moved back to Granville, where he perhaps managed Clarke Northup's farm for several years while Clarke tended to his tanning business. In 1816, however, Mintus took his family to Kingsbury, a small community west of Granville, where he most likely farmed as a tenant. That year was the "year of no summer," and thus a summer of few crops, thanks to the volcanic eruption of Mount Tambora in Indonesia. The poor harvest may have compelled Mintus to move his family to a farm near Fort Edward to be near Nicholas Carr Northup, who lived in nearby Sandy Hill (renamed Hudson Falls). Here, Mintus acquired enough property—at least $100 worth in 1821—to vote, a requirement of all men wishing to exercise the franchise in New York. (After 1822, the state eliminated this property requirement for white males, but raised the ante for black male voters to $250.) Solomon most likely received a common-school education here and learned to play the violin.

John Holmes Northup, brother to Clarke and Nicholas, farmed and blacksmithed in Hebron, a community five miles south of Granville. John and his wife, Anna Wells, raised nine children, the seventh of whom was Henry Bliss, born on April 4, 1805. Given their close ages, fictive kinship ties, and nearness of residences, Henry and Solomon surely spent time together, playing or working on a Northup farm, or perhaps even attending together North Granville Academy. Henry Bliss confirmed as much in his 1852 affidavit, testifying that he had known Solomon since childhood and had been well acquainted with his entire family. As they grew older, however, their lives diverged.

Henry Bliss Northup
Middlebury College Class of 1829

Solomon Northup
Freeborn black man

Anne Hampton Northup
Wife of Solomon

Mintus
Solomon's father, slave to Capt. Henry Northup

Susanna
Solomon's mother, a free woman of color

Captain Henry Northup
Great-uncle to Henry B. Northup

Clarke and Nicholas Carr Northup
Uncles to Henry B.

John Holmes Northup
Henry B.'s father

Anna Wells Northup
Henry B.'s mother

Electa Taylor Northup
Henry B.'s wife

Cephus Parker
Dry-goods store owner who received a letter about Solomon's whereabouts

Samuel Bass
Itinerant carpenter who had befriended Solomon on the Epps plantation; writer of the letter to Cephus Parker

Alexander Merrill (aka Merrill Brown) and **Joseph Russell (aka Abram Hamilton)**
Solomon's kidnappers

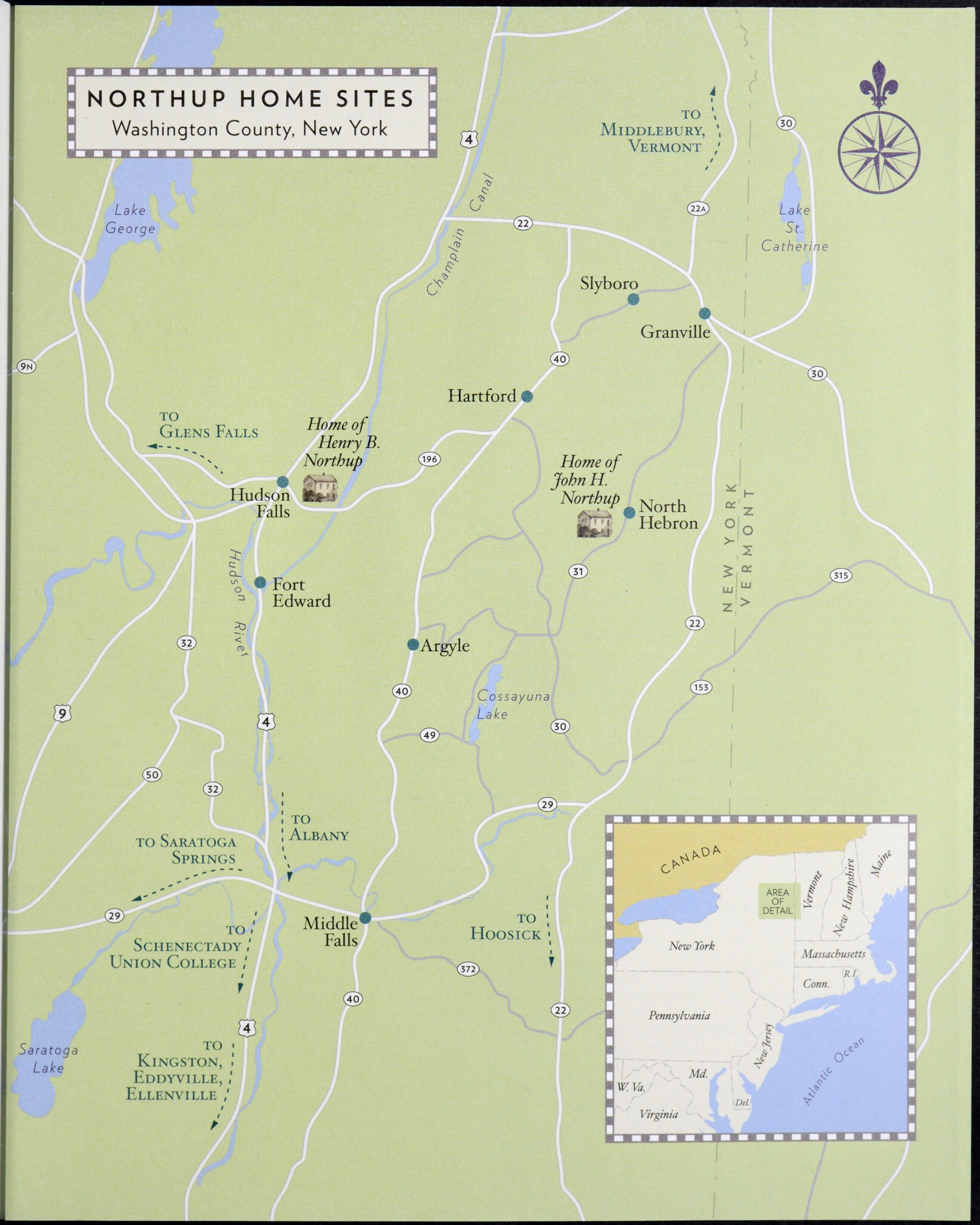
Edwin Epps
Plantation owner, one of Solomon's slave masters

According to Edith Hay Wyckoff, author of *The Biography of an American Family*, a multigenerational history of the white Northup family, Henry Bliss Northup left home in 1821 at the age of 16 in search of adventure. To the displeasure of his family, he first journeyed to New York City, then to Rhode Island, where he hoped to board a whaler. Instead, an in-law got him assigned to a schooner sailing for the West Indies. After a few months at sea, Henry was ready for college. According to Middlebury College records, he studied at North Granville Academy in preparation for matriculating at Middlebury in 1825, where his older cousin, Carr, studied between 1813 and 1815.

Middlebury records indicate that Henry Bliss undertook a standard classical course of study throughout his four years: Latin and Greek, chemistry and natural history, mathematics and natural philosophy, trigonometry and geography, natural theology and astronomy, law and philosophy, and rhetoric and English literature. During those four years, he lived in the building known as the "West College," later renamed Painter Hall. Each quarter, his family paid $5 for tuition, $1.50 for his room, and $1.50 for incidentals, for a grand total of $32 per year—an affordable price for a freehold farm family, considering that in 1825, the average farm laborer in New York earned about $120 a year while the average skilled mechanic earned over $350 per year. Henry was a diligent student, but not one above pulling pranks; during his sophomore year, the College informed Henry's parents that the report of his involvement in a duel on campus was simply a rumor, nothing more than "a matter of sport."

Henry and his 23 freshmen classmates constituted one-quarter of the total student body. However, four years later, only 18 of his classmates graduated, each of whom gave a speech at Commencement on August 19, 1829. During the afternoon portion of the program, Henry gave the second oration, in Latin: "Influence of Association on Love of Country." No extant copy of his speech exists. However, one might infer from the title—and from his anti-Freemasonry political leanings—that Henry may have called for a renewed "republican virtue"; that is, for Americans to show love of country above party and fraternal organizations. One year after graduating from Middlebury, Henry, now president of an anti-Mason organization in Washington County, New York, penned a "Proceedings of a Convention of Young Men, of the County of Washington, Opposed to the Masonic Institution," in which he calls for the eradication of Freemasonry. His essay, critical of the recent murder of Mason William Morgan for publishing the secret inner workings of the organization, demands that Americans rescue "freedom of conscience and liberty of thought and speech" from the Masonic "Party," which he labels a "Regency." He rails against local Freemason groups that claimed to be the inheritors of the moribund Republican Party, which Henry hails as the party "consecrated to purity of principle and incorruptible integrity . . . the party of the people; the party of honest men . . . [who] detest

NEW YORK MAP: MAP BASED ON AN ORIGINAL PUBLISHED IN THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF AN AMERICAN FAMILY BY EDITH WYCKOFF. RECREATED WITH PERMISSION.


NORTHUP HOME SITES
Washington County, New York
TO MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT
Lake George
Champlain Canal
Lake St. Catherine
Slyboro
Granville
Hartford
TO GLENS FALLS
Home of Henry B. Northup
Hudson Falls
Home of John H. Northup
North Hebron
NEW YORK
VERMONT
Hudson River
Fort Edward
Argyle
Cossayuna Lake
TO ALBANY
TO SARATOGA SPRINGS
TO SCHENECTADY UNION COLLEGE
Middle Falls
TO HOOSICK
Saratoga Lake
TO KINGSTON, EDDYVILLE, ELLENVILLE
CANADA
AREA OF DETAIL
Vermont
New Hampshire
Maine
New York
Massachusetts
R.I.
Conn.
Pennsylvania
New Jersey
Md.
W. Va.
Virginia
Del.
Atlantic Ocean

hypocrisy and delusion." This essay represents the foundation of Henry Bliss's political and moral beliefs: distaste for corruption and abuse and a love of individual freedom and personal liberty.

After graduating from Middlebury College, Henry B., as he began to call himself, moved to Kingsbury, New York, then to Sandy Hill, where he practiced law for over fifty years. He also developed a taste for politics. In 1837, he was elected clerk of the board of supervisors in Washington County, New York, a position he held for the next six years, and one that required great organizational skills. In 1838, Middlebury awarded him a Master of Arts degree. Between 1847 and 1850, Henry B. served as district attorney for Washington County. In 1852, he campaigned for the United States Senate. Henry B. also served one term as a member of the New York Assembly in the mid-1850s. His ambitions meshed well with his talents.

Along with valuing his political and legal careers, Henry B. prized family. On December 10, 1831, he married Electa Taylor of nearby Granville. The Taylors and the Northups created a tight-knit extended family: Electa's older sister, Ruth Taylor, married Henry B.'s older brother, Nicholas Carr, of Sandy Hill.

Henry B. and Electa enjoyed a long and happy marriage of 46 years. Together, they raised seven children, six of whom survived to adulthood.

In June 1841, Henry B. received a curious letter informing him that his fictive kin, Solomon Northup, had been kidnapped, was held in bondage, and was on a boat headed toward he knew not where. Henry B. could do little with such vague information. In fact, New York Governor William Seward refused to deputize Henry as a rescue agent for the state of New York, even though the state's legislature had granted governors of the state this new power. The 1840 "act more effectively to protect the free citizens of this State from being kidnapped, or reduced to Slavery" grew out of a dispute with Virginia over returning fugitive slaves. Seward insisted that fugitive slaves were entitled to a trial instead of summary return South. The governor of Virginia demanded that Seward uphold Article IV, Section 2, of the Constitution: "No person held to Service or Labour in one State, under the Laws thereof, escaping [to] another, shall, in Consequence of any Law or Regulation therein, be discharged from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be due."

Seward refused to recognize this argument, and furthermore insisted on New York's right to return to the state "any free citizen . . . of this State . . . kidnapped or transported away, into any other State or Territory . . . for the purpose of being there held in slavery." The kidnapping and selling of free blacks into slavery, which historians today call the "reverse underground railroad," was a fairly widespread practice in the 1830s and 1840s, especially in Northern states that bordered slaveholding states, in Northern cities, and even in the nation's capital, where the lack of freedom papers led regularly to the enslavement of free blacks. (On his journey south in 1841, Solomon met two such men—Robert from Cincinnati and Arthur from Norfolk—who became victims of the reverse underground railroad.)

Eleven years later, in early September 1852, during the height of his campaign for the United States Senate, Henry B. received another letter, this one addressed to Cephus Parker, the dry-goods store owner depicted in the film *Twelve Years a Slave*. Parker and William Perry, another store owner in Saratoga Springs, quickly passed the letter to Solomon's wife, Anne, who in turn journeyed to the neighboring village of Sandy Hill to place the correspondence in Henry B.'s hands. This letter, written by Samuel Bass, the Canadian-born antislavery itinerant carpenter who had befriended Solomon on the Epps plantation, explained exactly where Solomon could be found in Louisiana. But Henry B. was too busy campaigning for the Senate to act on this information. Solomon would have to wait until after the election.

In Fort Edward, New York, on Christmas Day 1828, 21-year-old Solomon Northup married Anne Hampton, a biracial woman from Sandy Hill. They raised three children, and throughout their marriage Anne worked as a domestic in private homes and as a cook in hotels and taverns. Solomon labored at several trades, including repairing the newly opened Champlain Canal; rafting lumber from Lake Champlain to Troy, New York; farming; and playing the fiddle.

In 1834, Solomon and Anne moved to the summer resort village of Saratoga Springs, where Anne's reputation as an outstanding cook grew. In addition to playing his violin, Solomon worked as a hack driver and perhaps as a waiter. Some evidence suggests that Solomon, described by one acquaintance as a "wandering fellow," may have traveled far and wide—perhaps as far south as the slave states—in search of work.

In March 1841, two white men, who gave their names as Merrill Brown and Abram Hamilton—but whose actual names were Alexander Merrill and Joseph Russell—introduced themselves to Solomon as performers in a circus in Washington, D.C. They invited Solomon to accompany them to New York City, promising him $1 a day for driving their team and easy money for playing his fiddle before audiences at night. Against the advice of several skeptical friends, Solomon accepted their offer. Once in New York, Solomon's escorts secured "freedom papers" for him and convinced him to continue with them to the nation's capital.

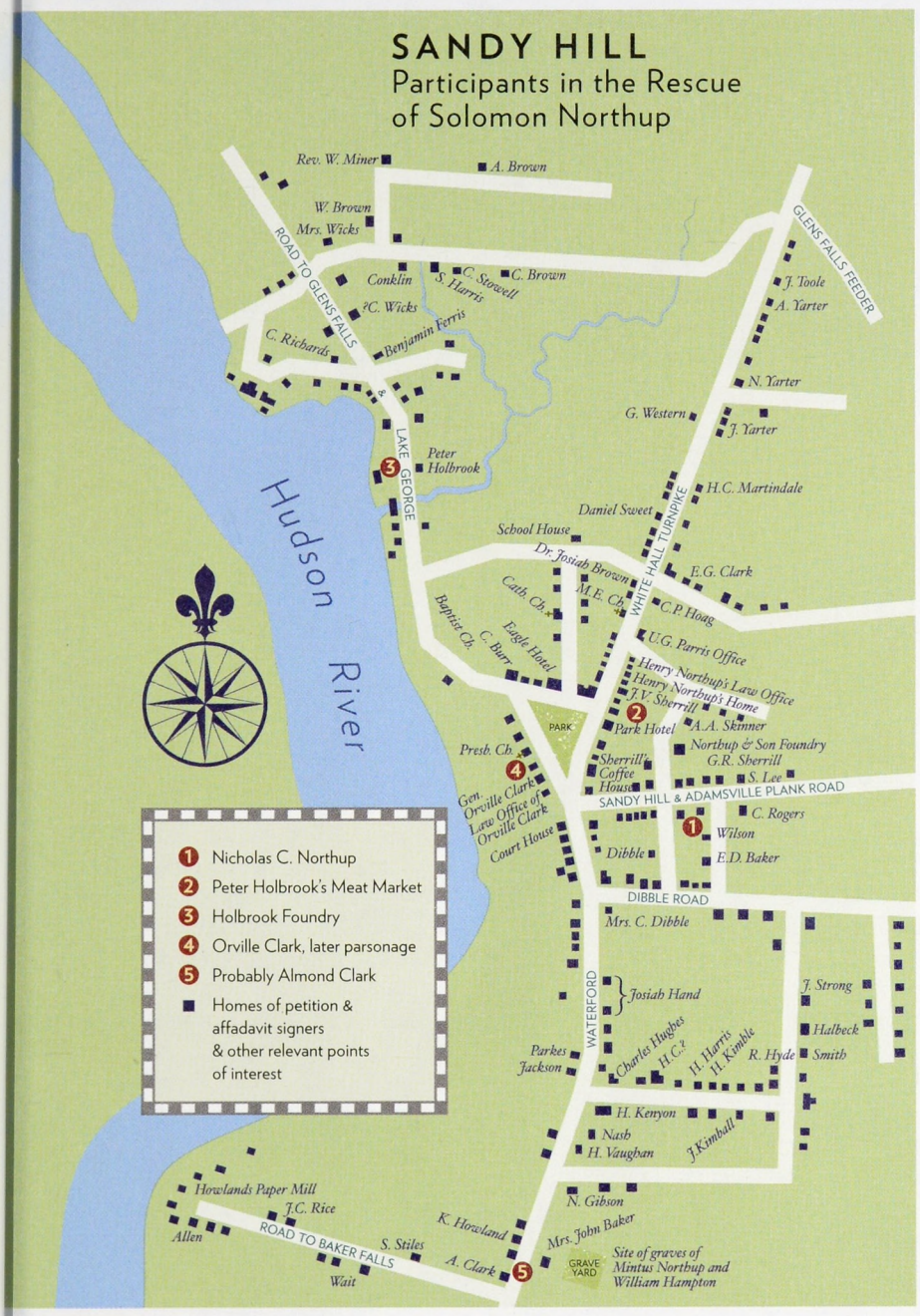
Arriving in Washington, D.C., rather than going directly to the alleged circus, the three men explored the city. They witnessed the funeral procession of the late President William Henry Harrison, viewed the Capitol and the White House, and during one afternoon and evening, engaged in one of Solomon's reported pastimes: drinking. They hopped from tavern to tavern until Solomon passed out. When he awoke, Solomon found himself without money and without his freedom papers, fettered in a slave pen, awaiting transport to Louisiana.

By far, Solomon's cruelest "master" throughout his 12-year ordeal was Edwin Epps, well known in the region as a brutal breaker of slaves. Solomon could not let on to Epps that he was literate, nor reveal that he was freeborn. When he told his prisoners in D.C. that he was a freeman, they beat him severely and cautioned him to never utter that claim again. To declare his free status to Epps would have surely meant Solomon's quick death, which would have eliminated conveniently any evidence that Epps had engaged in illegal human trafficking. Instead, Solomon witnessed and endured unimaginable brutality for more than a decade.

In November 1852, Henry B., campaigning as a conservative Whig, lost a close election for the Senate to a former Free-Soiler opponent, who ran as a Democrat. One might speculate on why Henry B. delayed rescuing Solomon: fear that making public his connections to Solomon would cost him the election; or perhaps calculating that if he won, he could exercise greater authority in rescuing his childhood friend. Regardless, within a few days of losing the election, Henry B. collected affidavits from members of Solomon's family and friends, to which he added his own letter of surety. This time, with sufficient, convincing evidence documenting Solomon's whereabouts, New York Governor Washington Hunt deputized Henry B. with the necessary authority to bring Solomon home.

Understanding that liberating Solomon would not be easy, Henry B. armed himself with as much authoritative weight as possible. First,

RESCUE MAP: SOURCES FOR THIS MAP ARE AN ORIGINAL MAP BY MORRIS LEVEY, PUBLISHED BY JAMES D. SCOTT AND ROBERT PEARSALL SMITH IN 1853 AND AN ADAPTATION BY MARILYN BROWNELL IN 2012. RECREATED WITH PERMISSION.



he paid a visit to Associate Supreme Court Justice Samuel Nelson in Washington, D.C. The two men had much in common: both men had roots in Hebron, New York; attended North Granville Academy and Middlebury College (Justice Nelson graduated in 1813); and both practiced law. However, the two men disagreed politically: Justice Nelson, a Democrat, supported the legality of slavery; Henry B., a Whig, probably detested the immorality of slavery. Nevertheless, Justice Nelson gave Henry B. a letter of introduction.

Before reaching the Epps plantation on January 3, 1853, Henry B. stopped in Marksville, Louisiana, where Bass had posted his letters, to hire a lawyer, to interview Bass, and to have legal papers drawn up that would authorize Henry B. and the local sheriff to remove Solomon from the Epps farm.

At the plantation, they presented Epps with the irrefutable evidence that the man whom Epps believed was Platt was in fact Solomon Northup. According to Solomon, Epps spewed that if he had known of their coming, he would have run him "into the swamps . . . where all the sheriffs on earth" would not have found him.

On their return trip to New York, Henry B. and Solomon stopped in Washington, D.C., to try to bring Solomon's slave trader, James H. Birch, to justice. Because Solomon could not testify against a white man in that city, Judge Morsell found in Birch's favor. An article in the January 20, 1853, issue of the *New York Times* noted this injustice: "The evidence of this colored man was absolutely necessary to prove some facts on the part of the prosecution, as he alone was cognizant of them." Birch then filed a countersuit against Solomon, alleging that he had colluded with Merrill and Russell to defraud *him*. When Henry B. offered to speak for Solomon, Birch dropped his suit.

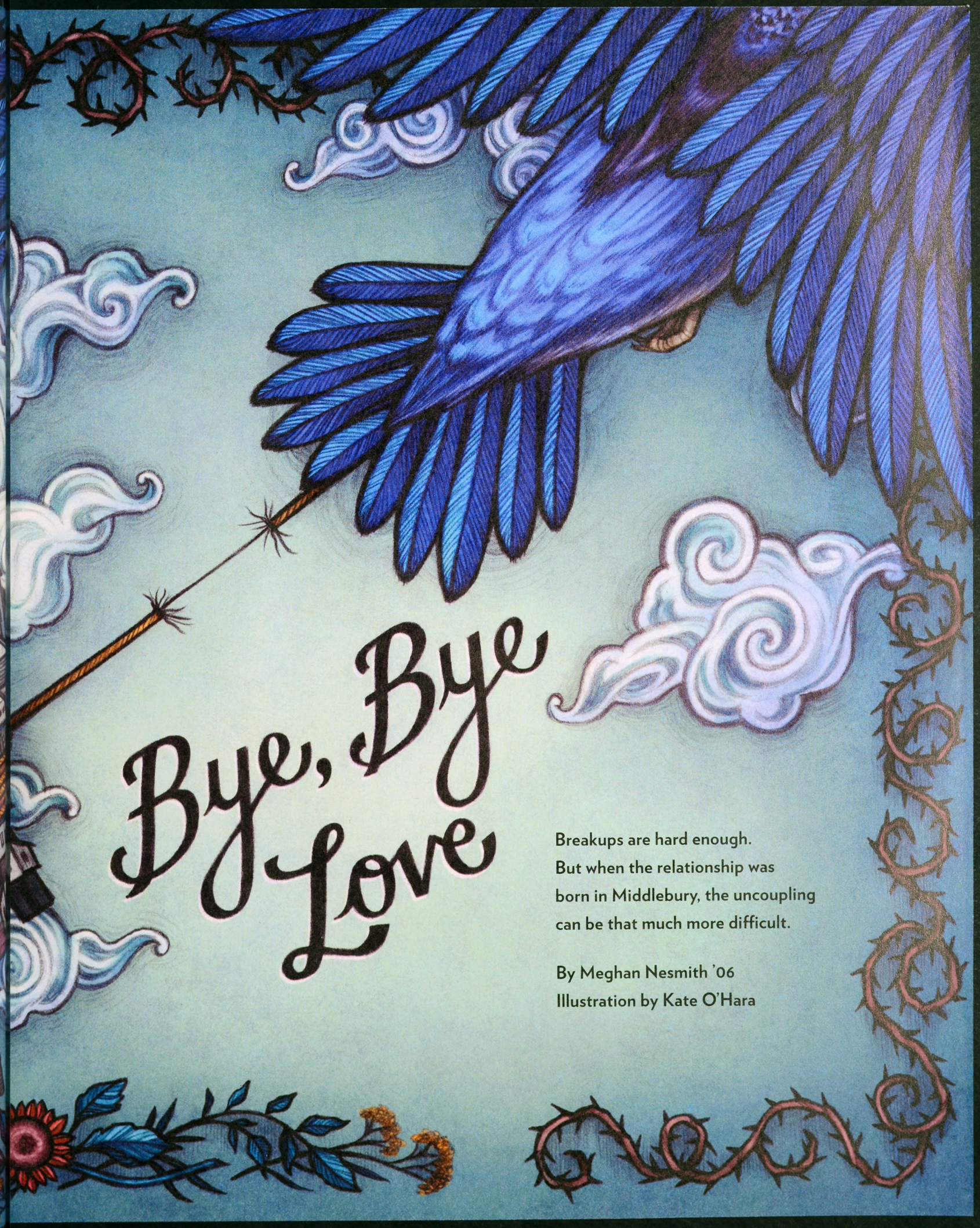
Back in Saratoga Springs, Henry B., Solomon, and David Wilson, a local lawyer, collaborated in writing his memoir, a task they completed in three months. Their goals were several: to publicize Solomon's tragic story; to help Solomon back on his feet so that he could pay off a number of debts (he sold the copyright to his memoir for $3,000); and to get the word out about his local kidnappers. Meanwhile, Solomon found himself busy as a speaker on the abolitionist circuit. In addition, he performed in two stage plays based on his memoir in New York and Massachusetts, to little acclaim. All the while, local newspapers ran stories continually about Solomon's ordeal.

By the time the memoir was published in July 1853, Henry B. had spent a considerable amount of time and money to apprehend Solomon's kidnappers. Virtually upon publication, the authorities apprehended Alexander Merrill in Wood Hollow near Gloversville, New York. Merrill, described as a "desperate fellow" who slept with a Bowie knife and a pair of pistols on the floor, was a known kidnapper. They also apprehended Joseph Russell, his accomplice, on a canal boat. The case against these two men went to trial at the county court in August 1854. However, due to some clever maneuvering by the two men's defense attorneys to get the charges of kidnapping in New York dismissed, and through a series of appeals to the State Supreme Court and to the Court of Appeals, which necessarily created delays and ultimately threw the case back to the county court, the case grew stale and cold. The charges against the two kidnappers were dismissed in May 1857.

After 1857, Solomon disappears from the historical record, save for a few tantalizing bits of evidence suggesting that he lived for a time in Vermont and Canada. Some of his friends speculated that Solomon had been kidnapped again, or even murdered. No grave of Solomon Northup has ever been found.

Although Henry Bliss Northup could not achieve complete justice for Solomon, the effort he gave in pursuing legal redress demonstrates his moral commitment to liberty, justice, and virtue. Henry B. and his wife, Electa, lived out the rest of their lives quietly in Sandy Hill, raising their orphaned granddaughter, Edith. Henry B. died there in 1877, Electa in 1882. Throughout his life, a strong moral compass guided Henry B.'s thoughts and actions, perhaps expressed best in a passage in his 1830 anti-Masonic essay: "The judgement of one honest man is the judgement of another; and nothing is required to ensure our triumph, but free discussion and the diffusion of information. In the diligent use of these honorable means, we shall assuredly prevail."

In 2014, descendants of the Northups donated portraits of Henry Bliss Northup and his wife, Electa, to Middlebury's Museum of Art. The paintings have been painstakingly restored and are now part of the museum's permanent collection.



Bye, Bye Love

Breakups are hard enough. But when the relationship was born in Middlebury, the uncoupling can be that much more difficult.

By Meghan Nesmith '06
Illustration by Kate O'Hara

When my boyfriend of eight years broke up with me, four years after our Middlebury graduation, I went to Disney World.

It was an odd destination: I was 27, childless, generally wary of crowds. But I needed a fantasy, so I dragged along a close friend, Emily Lackey '06, who was reeling from her own romantic upset. We sobbed as we rode the Carousel of Progress over and over again, watching the animatronic nuclear family jet into their great, big, beautiful tomorrow. When I came home, my ex had moved all of his belongings out of the apartment.

I remembered only later that my father had once referred to Middlebury as the Disney World of colleges. It was, for those of us lucky enough to fully buy in, something of a dream: a hyperreal and cloistered place, with rules and a language known only to its intimates. And much like the dream of Prince Charming, I believed I had found my epic romance. We had our first date at Taste of India; shared our first kiss at a social house party; had our first blowout argument in the basement of Davis Family Library. I imagined that on our wedding day, we'd trade Cinderella's Castle for the more modest, but more meaningful, backdrop of Mead Chapel.

Instead, he took up with his best friend's girlfriend, and I haven't spoken to him in almost five years.

I wandered, dazed, around the first campus wedding I attended post-breakup, thinking, *This was supposed to be mine. This was all supposed to be mine.* I would flip to the Class Acts section of the magazine and feel what I can most closely identify as rage. Breakups are, at the best of times, an amicable division of assets, friends, memories. At worst, they are a wrenching apart of some fundamental truth you believed about yourself and the world at large: this is who I am, and this is how I locate myself, and this is the story I tell about my life. Every romance has an element of mythmaking, but Middlebury romances seem particularly susceptible. I was a Midd Kid; I would marry another Midd Kid; together we would raise our children as Midd Kids. It was an identity forged in those moments of young adulthood in which so much is both laid bare and made clear, and it seemed as real, as immovable, as portended, as anything else I knew to be true about myself. Saying good-bye to that identity was almost as difficult—and in moments, more so—as saying good-bye to him.

Like so many others at Middlebury, I first heard the statistic on my college tour: "You know, something like 60 percent of Middlebury students marry other Middlebury students!" said my tour guide, chipper and promising, guileless. Recent examinations of Middlebury love stories have focused on the proliferation of "hookup culture"—in her summer 2015 story "Modern Love," Leah Fessler '15 painted a heady, promiscuous world in which roughly 81 percent of students participated in "noncommittal sexual engagements"—but that Middlebury feels radically different than mine (kids these days!), and bears no relationship to Middlebury's "marriage" mythology.

Even the *New York Times* weighed in on the myth, in a 1992 piece entitled "Marriage Talk as an Intramural Sport." "More Middlebury alumni marry each other than do graduates of any other college, former students recall being told by at least two college presidents at freshman orientation," they wrote. "Some graduates remember hearing a different, more dramatic version: 'Look to your left, look to your right: Two out of three of you will marry a Middlebury graduate.'"

Let's correct this notion right away: According to Kim Ehritt, Middlebury's director of constituent records, the real figure is closer to 16 percent. "That marriage stat is one I've tried to debunk so many times over the past 30-plus years," she writes, claiming she gets asked about the myth every few years by press or an overzealous econ student. "Looking at individual classes, the highest percentage falls in the 25–28 percent range. There's a jump in the post-WWII/Korean War classes, when many of the men on campus were older veterans. There's another spike in the classes of the late 1960s (I think in part due to second marriages)."

It's a salve to my wound: in failing to secure a Middlebury spouse, at least I'm still in the majority. But why does the myth refuse to die?

For starters, Middlebury couples are absurdly strong ambassadors for their kind. A quick glance at the most recent issues of *Middlebury Magazine* reveals nearly half of the couples captured in the wedding roundup consist of two Midd alums. And the Midd couples I know—and I know many—have built stable, warm unions, and are almost innocent in their views on relationships and romance, having never passed a night at the bar wearily swiping left, left, left.

One half of one such couple, Julia Proctor '06.5, also remembers hearing the Midd marriage stat during her campus tour. Still, she says, she was under no illusions that she'd meet her husband at college. When Phil Aroneanu '06.5 asked her to dance at their Feb orientation ("He wasn't very good"), she didn't imagine that 10 years later they'd wed on top of a mountain in Maine, surrounded by a host of Midd classmates and friends.

They moved to Burlington after college before relocating to Washington, D.C., and finally New York City, always surrounded by a strong Middlebury contingent. As Phil was one of the founders of 350.org (two of the other founders were a Middlebury couple, since separated), their relationship was, in many ways, an extension of college; as such, Middlebury has played and continues to play a large role in their lives. They can easily rattle off a dozen other Middlebury couples they'd still consider good friends. They've held these connections tightly and are now part of a network whose bonds and connections have only deepened since college.

"We love Vermont and think about moving back all the time," says Phil.

"And our friend groups," Julia adds, "are still largely Midd Kids."

"And our professors," says Phil. "We're still connected to them."

"If I compare my summer camp experience with Middlebury, which were both such formative experiences," says Julia, "I have camp as my own thing, which Phil doesn't really understand, and I can see how different that is to our connection to Middlebury."

f my Middlebury friends who are married, the majority are married to other Middlebury students: if it's not something in the water that created and cemented these relationships, maybe it's an issue of timing. These couples knew and loved each other in college; the rest of us are still catching up. One of the starkest reminders of this in my post-breakup life was simply that it was very, very difficult to find someone who shared even a modicum of my interests, curiosities, or passions. In the years after my breakup, I floated—hopeful, alert—through many alumni events. I was willing to toss most of my dating criteria out the window. "Let him just be from Middlebury," I'd think.

In its geographic isolation, too, Middlebury enforces a sense of solidarity that makes it hard to imagine life without the long lunches in Proctor lounge, the icy trek to Bi Hall in the frigid cold. To fully invest in that world is to forget that anything exists outside of it. It becomes, then, all too easy to roll the carpet of that fantasy further into the future, to the wedding at Mead, the homecomings, the babies in Panther onesies.

For the children of Middlebury couples, that reality is even more potent. In fact, Ehritt speculates that one of the reasons the myth persists is that as older alumni (who heard the statistic from former President Olin Robison, the apparent original mythmaker) graduate, marry, and have children, they pass the romance of their origin story on to their kids. Sarah Little Turner '06 is the daughter of two Middlebury alumni, Greg '76 and Ann Downey Little '77. She entered college under the specter of her parents' relationship.

"It's not that there was pressure, but I think, in my 18-year-old brain, there was an expectation or a hope it would happen," she says. "Before arriving at Midd, it was like, *There are all these incredible men who are the perfect match for me, and how will I ever pick one?*" That particular fantasy, she said, was crushed not long after she arrived. "But, you know, this is still reality."

Mine is not, of course, the only Middlebury relationship that ended. Rachel Dunlap '06 met Lucas Kavner '06.5 their first shared semester. They became close, and started dating senior year. After graduation, they moved to New York City and took the relationship—and college—with them.

When they did break up, the loss of the relationship was deepened by the perceived loss of Middlebury. "On top of dealing with the regular loss of a breakup, you're mourning the loss of having that shared experience, all those common friends, and you lose that Middlebury story of having met your partner at Middlebury, becoming a Middlebury family," Rachel says.

Like me, she subsequently struggled with dating. "When you leave the Midd bubble, you realize how special everyone there is. It's hard to find that in the real world." Thankfully, she's now in a new relationship, and still close to her ex. "I appreciate our friendship even more because it connects me back to all those memories."

By sheer numbers, more Middlebury students will break up than marry. Yet somehow, it still feels jarring. Says Phil Aroneanu, "We know a Middlebury couple that got divorced. They were together for all of college, then got married in Vermont, and they were such the epitome of a Middlebury couple."

"That shattered me," echoes Julia. "I think we expect those relationships to last—maybe that's part of the mystique. You see Middlebury couples as these healthy relationships between two strong individuals who know what they want."

And that, of course, is part of the problem. The Middlebury myth allows us to craft a narrative around the perfect love story. It's a narrative that—at least in my case—gives us license to mask other issues. As Rachel says: "I think it's possible that our Middlebury community and closeness might have kept me and Lucas together longer than we would have been otherwise." It's comforting, in other words, to stay in the bubble, to resist, if only for a little longer, joining the real world.

Which is not to say that all Middlebury couples inhabit that idyll. Middlebury's problematic lack of diversity can make romance (among many other facets) difficult. Emiko and Mateal Lovaas Ishihara, both Class of 2006.5, met in passing their first semester; by a stroke of luck, they ended up the only two people in a six-person suite in Ross. "We've basically lived together since we were 19," says Emiko. They became close friends, but didn't start dating until after college. Neither felt entirely at home at Midd.

"My personal experience was more negative than most," Emiko says. "I was soul searching. Middlebury can be such an awesome experience, but it wasn't that for me." For her part, Mateal cherished the quintessential experiences—cheering on the quidditch team, lunching at the language tables—but ultimately found herself constrained and frustrated. While they're grateful for the shared memories of their formative years, it was only after they graduated and married that they really came to treasure Middlebury.

"Middlebury had and still has such a small LGBTQ community, and that's why I think our relationship was meant to be," says Emiko. They took their infant daughter, Rumi, back to Middlebury this summer. "We took photos in front of Old Chapel," says Emiko. "It was kind of a pilgrimage, to go back. It was a closed circle, in a way, because that's how we met. We kept saying to her, 'This is where you were made!'"

It was through all these conversations that I realized something about what I was really mourning: what I yearned for most was being able to think about Middlebury with unbridled joy. Much as other parting couples suffer the loss of a favorite restaurant, or hear a beloved song turn wrong, I had lost access to Middlebury as sanctuary. I can see now how much of my relationship functioned as a way to prop up that identity, to give me grounding when I lost it: to remind me that I came from a place that was meaningful. That I had a home.

And so for all of that, there is a part of me that wants the myth to continue. College is a time to believe in big things: big dreams, big goals, big change. The myth wanted us to believe in love, and so we did; after all, it was easy to believe at Middlebury, where the aurora borealis once licked the wide sky an eerie green and gold the winter of my sophomore year. Anything was possible, we were told, and so I believed it was possible I'd met my soul mate over warm beer in a dorm room on the third floor of Stewart Hall my second week of college. I think—I know—that I stayed with him longer than I might have if I couldn't remember the way he looked striding across the lawn in front of Twilight to meet me after class.

In my new partnership—one in which I feel more deeply understood, supported, and cared for than ever before—we are starting from scratch. We have 30-plus years of experiences to unfold for each other. I am ever trying and failing to describe to him the deep, sensory memory of walking back to my dorm from rehearsal late at night across Battell Beach, the profound quiet draping campus, the sharp bite of my boots on snow.

It's difficult, and exciting, and endless, and someday I will take him to the place I love so much, and try to help him see it through my eyes. M

MAKE
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How He Won

Political scientist Matt Dickinson intended to spend his sabbatical writing the definitive work on the Obama White House staff. Instead, his leave year was dedicated to chronicling one of the most improbable candidacies for the American presidency. ¶ And like many others, Dickinson was left to grapple with how a former real-estate-magnate-turned-reality-show-impresario defied every expectation by pundits and political scientists to win the nation's highest office.

BY MATT DICKINSON

ILLUSTRATION BY VICTOR JUHASZ

I SHOULD BE CLEAR RIGHT UP FRONT: I didn't immediately scrap my sabbatical plans on that June 16 morning in 2015 when Donald J. Trump declared his candidacy for the presidency of the United States. That morning in Trump Tower, when he rode the down escalator to a flag-draped stage, Neil Young's "Rockin' in the Free World" reverberating around the atrium, I was as skeptical as anyone that this would be a "real" candidacy.

Instead, as I listened to Trump's rambling justification for running ("We don't have victories anymore") interspersed with an equal mix of outlandish policy promises ("I will be the greatest jobs president that God ever created") and crude attacks on ethnic groups like Mexican immigrants ("They are bringing drugs, they are bringing crime, they're rapists") my immediate concern was to extract the maximum entertainment value from his short-lived candidacy before its inevitable implosion.

Toward that end, I sat down after his announcement and wrote a fiendishly clever (to my mind) satirical piece on my *Presidential Power* blog explaining why I would break my long-standing policy of not voting in presidential elections so that I could support "The Donald." After lauding, tongue firmly in cheek, his many stellar qualities—"He's rich!"—I ended my piece by telling Trump, "You're hired!"—a not-so-subtle play on his signature tagline from *Celebrity Apprentice*. And then I waited, smugly, for his political comeuppance. Instead, the comeuppance was mine. During the next six months—a period dubbed by political scientists "the invisible primary" because it tends to weed out weaker candidates—Trump continued issuing vague policy promises while insulting anyone who dared to oppose him, including war heroes, journalists, and media anchors, and, not least, his major political rivals, each of whom he tagged with a demeaning sobriquet: "Low-Energy Jeb" Bush, "Lying Ted" Cruz, and "Little Marco" Rubio. Remarkably, even as an increasingly worried Republican Party establishment began belatedly mobilizing against him, and pundits like Nate Silver continued to predict his imminent demise, Trump's candidacy did not collapse. Instead, he quickly rose to the top of the public opinion polls and stayed there, despite raising and spending comparatively little money, running few ads, and generally seeming to defy what political scientists thought they understood about how to win a major party nomination.

By the end of 2015, Trump was up 20 points over Cruz, his nearest rival based on the aggregate polls. Most of his other opponents—several had already dropped out—were even further behind and polling only in single digits. How was Trump doing it? Belatedly, I decided to find out. With my wife, Alison (she took notes while I live-tweeted events), I had already begun attending candidate rallies in neighboring New Hampshire, home to the crucial first-in-the-nation primary and thus a magnet for all the presidential hopefuls. These were typically intimate, low-key events

of perhaps 50–75 people, held at restaurants, schools, and Elks clubs, in which candidates provided brief statements mapping out their major policy positions, fielded some questions, and concluded by asking for people's support.

Then, in January 2016, about a month before the New Hampshire primary, I attended my first Trump rally, at a high school in Claremont, New Hampshire. I soon realized I had committed the social scientist's cardinal sin: opining on a topic I had never really studied, never mind understood. On the night of the rally, Alison and I arrived early, only to find a half-mile-long line to get into the high school gymnasium. The night was bitterly cold—the temperature hovering in the lower 20s—and many of those around us, particularly the high school students, were lightly dressed, so we expected some attrition. Instead, in the more than an hour that it took us to get inside, we saw not a single person leave the line. People passed the time buying the ubiquitous Trump campaign paraphernalia—buttons, hats and T-shirts—talking with a small, friendly group of protestors, and trying to stay warm. When we finally passed through the metal detectors at the building's entrance, we discovered a packed gymnasium of more than 1,000 people. His was by far the largest campaign audience we had seen to date, save for a Bernie Sanders rally in Lebanon, New Hampshire. The crowd appeared to be a demographic cross-section of New Hampshire voters. Of course, it was hard to discern who the solid Trump supporters were, who might still be undecided, and who came just for the experience. But whatever their leanings, they were in a festive mood.

And then Trump hit the stage. In my blog post, published a couple of days later, I tried to capture the essence of my first Trump campaign speech: "Trump finally took the stage, entering while Twisted Sister's 'We're Not Gonna Take It' blared from the speakers, almost an hour after the scheduled start time. After referencing the size of the crowd—'There's a lot of people still outside . . . should we wait for them? No!'—he immediately launched into a discussion of the latest Reuters poll, which had him leading the race with 42 percent, with Ted Cruz second at 14 percent. He then proceeded to work his way through a series of poll results, all of which showed him ahead of his Republican rivals. 'And we're winning big in a place called New Hampshire!' he exclaimed, to loud cheers. After doing a state-by-state rundown of the polls, he noted, 'People always ask, "Why do you talk so much about the polls?" Because I'm winning! Believe me, if I'm not winning I don't talk about 'em.' He took pains to point out that he was leading among Hispanics in Nevada. Later he would add evangelicals and the Tea Party to his list of supporters—'I'm winning with everything . . . I'm winning with the smart people. I'm winning with the not-so-smart people too!'"

And, in fact, Trump *was* winning—and would continue to do so when the actual voting began. After finishing second to Cruz in the Iowa caucuses—a strong performance by Trump in a caucus state where social conservatives dominate the Republican vote—he began methodically racking up victories and clearing the Republican field, beginning with his blowout win in New Hampshire a week later. Ten days after his New Hampshire victory, when the remaining Republican candidates moved south to the more racially diverse state of South Carolina, Alison and I followed. On our arrival we experienced a welcome dose of Southern hospitality when the locals pulled our rental truck from the ditch I had driven it into late at night trying to find our hotel. The next morning, after attending a Cruz rally, we returned to our hotel to find armed security blocking the entrance. It turned out the Trump entourage had moved in to our hotel the previous night, and he and his staff were now preparing to leave to get to his rally. (Later that day we asked the hotel manager what Trump was like. He effusively praised Trump as the most genial of guests.) We hurried ahead to the rally, and once again found ourselves in the midst of a campaign experience like no other.

As we left the arena, people seemed in a festive mood, as if they had attended a great rock concert or sporting event.

The next day Trump scored a 10-point victory, ending the candidacy of the one-time front-runner Jeb Bush. On my *Presidential Power* site I took another stab at explaining Trump's growing support: "If you want to know why Donald Trump won in South Carolina tonight, you need only have attended his rally yesterday at the Myrtle Beach Civic Center. . . . Inside, Elton John's 'Rocket Man' blared so loud the floor shook. There was an air of expectation as the large crowd waited for The Donald to arrive. The floor of the Civic Center was packed—I estimated maybe 5,000 people pressing forward to the stage, trying to get a closer glimpse of the candidate. . . . As is typical for a Trump crowd, there was a healthy cross-section of demographic groups, but there was a definite segment of what appeared to be the working-class voter; for example, a group of bikers gathered next to me, with one of them wearing a leather jacket and clutching a Trump poster. . . . Trump ended [the rally] by asking the people to come out and vote for him. 'We are going to start winning, winning, winning,' he intoned, to rising applause. As we left the arena, people seemed in a festive mood, as if they had attended a great rock concert or sporting event. 'You'll remember this great meeting,' Trump told them near the end of the speech. And he may very well be right."

Less than 10 days later, on so-called Super Tuesday—the biggest day of the nominating race in terms of the number of delegates at stake—Trump won six more contests to cement his front-runner status. Two weeks after that we packed our bags once more, this time flying to Florida where we had intended to see whether Marco Rubio could resuscitate his flagging campaign in his home state's March 16 primary. By the time we arrived, however, Rubio was on political life support. With our interest in him dwindling, and unable to get into any of the packed Trump rallies, we settled for a rather sedate Hillary Clinton event hosted by her husband, Bill. The next day, Trump crushed "Little Marco" by nearly 20 percent, ending Rubio's candidacy. Although Trump's remaining two opponents, Cruz and Ohio Governor John Kasich, hung on for another two months, the race for the Republican nomination was essentially over.

All that remained was Trump's official coronation as the Republican standard-bearer. In late July, after attending one more Trump rally in upstate New York, Alison and I headed to Cleveland, host of the Republican National Convention, where, in my role as political blogger, I had secured media credentials. Could Trump unify the party? The talking heads on cable television thought not; they speculated endlessly about the chances for a brokered convention in which the Republican delegates would revolt against a Trump candidacy, and a white knight—Mitt Romney? Paul Ryan?—would ride in to rescue the party from certain electoral disaster. Alison and I spent much of our time staked out at a bar near the security entrance to the Quicken Loans arena, where we could watch media pundits like Chuck Todd, Wolf Blitzer, and Van Jones arrive to pontificate about the coming political bloodbath. Alas, the pundits were wrong again. After watching from the nosebleed seats high inside the arena as Trump gave a lengthy acceptance speech punctuated by frequent applause from a very supportive audience, I summarized my

experience as follows: "I flew into Ohio expecting to see a very divided set of Republican delegates, and braced for major demonstrations in the streets. Neither expectation was met. In fact, despite the media's tendency to focus attention on dissenting delegates and other controversies . . . this was a relatively tame event. Once Trump's team, allied with the Republican Party leadership, beat back an early effort to amend the rules to allow the delegates to vote their conscience, the battle for the nomination was essentially over."

And the battle for the general election race now began in earnest.

TRUMP HAD DONE THE IMPROBABLE IN SECURING THE NOMINATION. Could he now do the impossible and win the presidency? Many of my colleagues thought not. They believed his appeal was limited to the Republican-leaning portion of the electorate, and that he would lose more moderate voters in the general election, and by a wide margin. Based on what Trump's supporters were telling me at his rallies, I thought otherwise. As I wrote in my convention blog post, Trump's message of economic populism was likely to find a broader audience: "I think his message will resonate with that portion of the electorate that has experienced years of stagnant wages, and who are worried about growing economic inequality and security issues."

Eager to see how Trump's candidacy would play with a general election audience, Alison and I attended one last Trump rally, in Windham, New Hampshire, during early August. Once again the event was packed, and this time we spent most of it outside, talking with Trump supporters barred by the fire marshal from entering the building. In my blog summary, I wrote: "It quickly became clear that two themes dominated the thinking of Trump supporters. The first, expressed—unprompted by me—by every person I talked to, was economic anxiety. Interestingly, that anxiety was not directed so much at their own situation but toward that of their children, or others close to them. . . . The second theme that emerged, again unprompted by me, was a deep antipathy toward Hillary Clinton. One man, in his early 40s, told me he wasn't voting for Trump as much as he was against Clinton. Almost to a person those I talked to expressed a fundamental belief that she could not be trusted. At one point in our conversation, a woman whose daughter was having twins lowered her voice to tell me, 'I'm a Roman Catholic and a good Christian, but I just have to say this: that woman [Hillary Clinton] is evil.'"

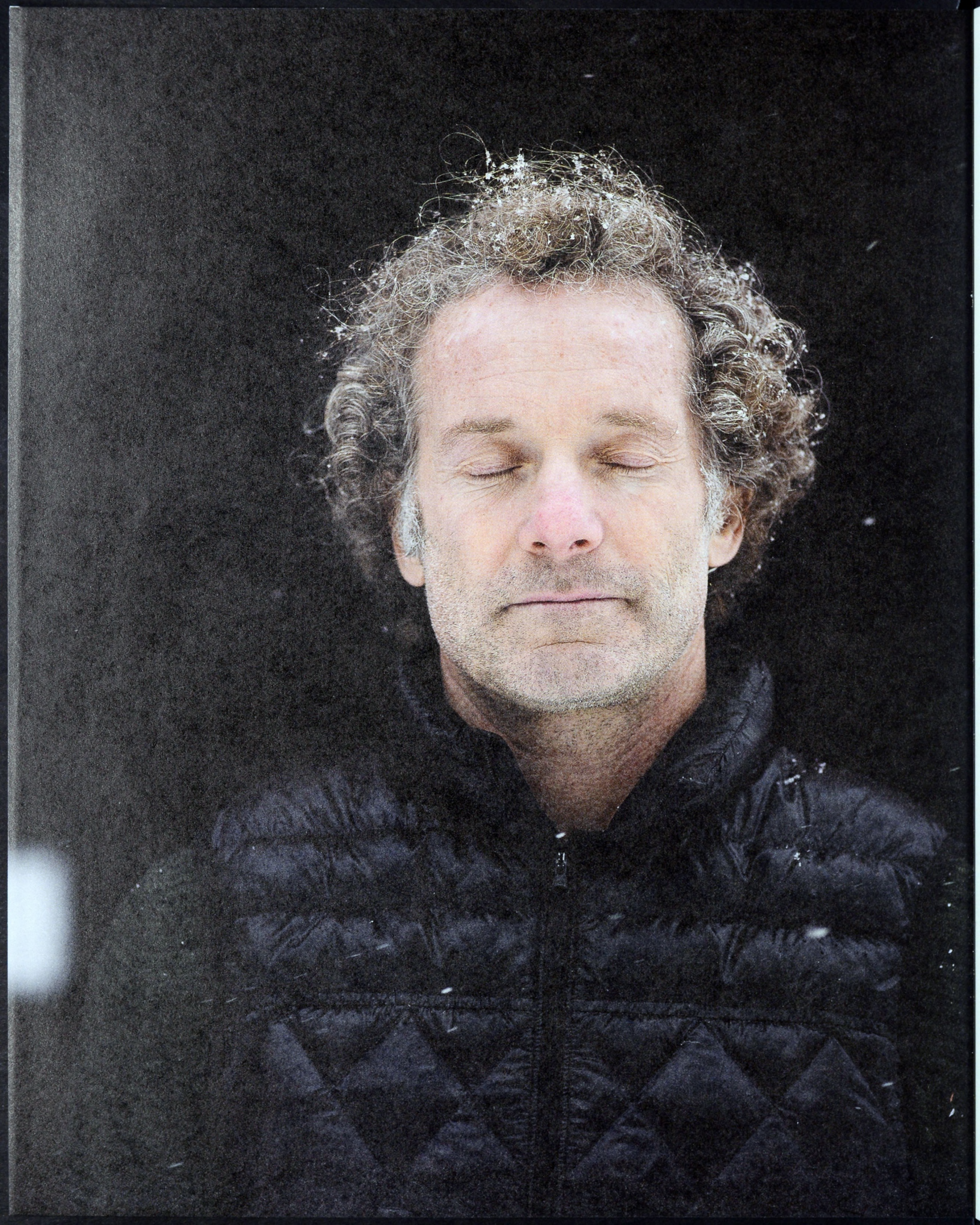
For much of the general election campaign, however, it appeared my colleagues might be right. Despite the political science forecast models issued in late summer that indicated the race for the popular vote would be very close, Clinton maintained a consistent lead of 2–5 percent in the national polls throughout the fall, and election forecasts by pundits like Silver using state polls gave her a very high probability of winning the Electoral College on November 8. Could the polls be wrong? In a lecture given in late October, I assured my audience that, historically, the polls were increasingly accurate as Election Day approached. If that pattern held, Clinton should win a narrow victory, I said. As it turned out, the polls were wrong. The political scientist forecast models were not.

On Election Night my colleague Bert Johnson and I gathered in Crossroads Café to analyze the returns and provide commentary. A large crowd of perhaps several hundred expectant students had gathered. Tittering with excitement, they anticipated history being made by the election of the first woman president. That afternoon, in my final weekly politics lunch, I had laid out the progression of states based on poll closing times—first Florida, then North Carolina, and then Ohio—that Trump had to win if he were to pull off an upset. If he lost any one of them, I told my audience, Clinton would be our next president. That night, as the polls closed in the key states I had identified, beginning with Florida at 7, it gradually became clear as the votes were tallied that Trump was outperforming the polls. He had narrow leads in each of the benchmark states and, more surprisingly, he also led in states like Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, which almost no one predicted would be in play. As Bert and I took turns explaining what we were seeing in the returns, the festive mood dissipated. Students grew increasingly hushed. One fled in tears, whispering, "I can't take this anymore." By 11:30 p.m., when the staff closed the café down, it was apparent that we had witnessed history in the making—but not the history most had expected. By the time I arrived home later that night, most of the key states had been called in Trump's favor, and it was all but certain that a billionaire businessman with no political experience was going to be our next president.

How did it happen? The next morning I began my U.S. Elections class by recounting what I had seen at the Trump rallies, and how listening to his supporters for the past year provided clues to his victory. Despite the caricatures of Trump voters often presented in partisan social media outlets, I explained, the vast majority were not racist, misogynistic "deplorables." Indeed, in my conversations, Trump supporters rejected his more inflammatory talking points. Moreover, I pointed out that, although the state polls had systematically underestimated Trump's support, the fundamentals-based political science forecasts that predicted a closer race proved remarkably accurate. Given those fundamentals—most notably the uneven progression of the economic recovery under Obama, and the difficulty parties had in holding the White House for three consecutive terms—I reminded them that Trump's narrow victory was not a complete surprise. Nor did it represent a break with previous elections in terms of what motivated voters. It was still largely the economy.

For the most part, my students were not yet ready to hear this. Less than 24 hours earlier they had expected a Clinton victory. Now they were grieving. Several spoke with anger about what they believed Trump's election really meant about voters in this country. Others broke down in tears. A week later I tried again. Speaking at a College-wide post-election panel, I said, "When you survey most Americans on a gamut of issues and you compare their response in 'red states' vs. 'blue states,' you find that there's much more that binds us together, and that we share a common set of values. It's only the case that when you're forced to choose between two candidates who may, themselves, be polarized, it appears we are polarized as a nation. In fact, Trump supporters and Clinton supporters agree on much more than they disagree on, and the question, again, is 'How do you move toward that common ground?'"

How indeed? Presidential elections are inherently divisive. Candidates and their partisans spend most campaigns telling us of the high stakes involved, and the disastrous consequences should their opponent win. In the increasingly balkanized world of cable news and social media, moreover, these polarizing tendencies get magnified. I understand why Trump's unprecedented (and unpresidentially) divisive language alarmed people, and further exacerbated partisan differences. However, having spent the better part of my sabbatical year listening to Americans explain how they would vote, and why, I am convinced that most of those who backed Trump do not share his more incendiary views. We would do well to remember that our choices of candidates are often more polarized than we are. In reassuring our students that we reject the more demeaning portions of Trump's message, we must be careful not to demonize the great portion of voters who backed him despite, and not because of, his more hurtful words. We are, in the end, greater together.



The Survivor

Theo Padnos '91 spent nearly two years captive in an al-Qaeda prison in Syria. It was Vermont that saved him.

By Michael Blanding

Photographs by Kathleen Dooher

WHEN HE SLEPT, he dreamt of Vermont. Snow falling through the birches. The weatherbeaten red barn. Family gathered around the fieldstone fireplace. Then he woke up to the hot furnace of a Syrian prison, a reality that seemed no less a dream. He'd been captive for months, starting with the day in October 2012 when he had run through an olive grove across the border from Turkey with three young Syrian men. They said they had worked as journalists and could introduce him to members of the Free Syrian Army.

Theo Padnos '91, was 43 years old at the time, an aspiring journalist who had come to Syria hoping to sell articles about the country's ongoing civil war. He sat down with the men on a mattress in a small house, asking one of them questions—What made him fight in the revolution? What was the happiest day of the war for him? The saddest? When the interview was over, the cameraman walked up to him, and kicked him hard in the face. One of the men held Padnos down while the others beat him. They put him in handcuffs, tied his legs, and told him, "We're from al Qaeda. You are our prisoner now."

That's how it started, a two-year captivity by soldiers with the al-Nusra Front, Syria's branch of al Qaeda. The details of his ordeal are captured in a documentary called *Theo Who Lived*, released this winter on Netflix. For the majority of the time, Padnos was confined to a small cell, and regularly beaten with steel cables and chains, and shocked into submission with a cattle prod. "You try and protect yourself with your hands, and then they start hitting your hands," he says. "After awhile, your hands are bleeding and broken, so much you have to put them down."

For all of the abuse he faced, Padnos comes across remarkably unscathed as he sits at a Harvard Square café in Cambridge, Massachusetts. A light rain falls outside the window on the trees in the square, as his bicycle leans against the window, unlocked, outside. His hair is a frizz of gray curls, and his eyes are bright, as he recounts his travails. "I didn't feel traumatized by the experience," he insists. "It was a positive tonic, like electroshock therapy. I was a bit down in the dumps, and I came back alert, awake, and happy."

AS A CHILD, Padnos attended private school a few blocks from here at Cambridge's prestigious Buckingham, Browne & Nichols. He lived in a nearby suburb, and by age 10 was riding the city bus by himself to school. "He went all over Boston by himself," says his father, Michael Padnos, a former public interest lawyer for environmental and tenant rights. "People said, 'Aren't you worried?' I said, 'No, he's got a lot of initiative and he's very smart. I'm not worried about him.'"

By that time, Padnos was already learning Russian—demonstrating an early facility for languages; eventually he would be fluent in Russian, French, German, Italian, and Arabic. His mother, Nancy Curtis, worked as a writer for museums and arts organizations, and says Padnos was a charming child, with a ready smile and a full head of blond curls. "He was an exceptionally happy, sunny, good-natured boy, so much so that we had one friend who called him 'Shiny,'" says Curtis, who still lives in Cambridge.

That shininess darkened at age 13 when his parents divorced and his father moved to France. Around the same time, he came to Vermont to attend boarding school at the Putney School, and took solace in the natural environment. "It seemed like everything that was beautiful and lovely existed there for me," he says now. "Family, nature, beautiful colleges," he laughs, "beautiful girls." Padnos had been coming to Vermont since he was very young, when his parents purchased a ramshackle farmhouse in the woods at the end of a long road in Bridgewater. After he graduated from Putney, he headed just a couple of hours up the road to attend college at Middlebury. "Between the time I was 13 and 22 I went only to private schools in Vermont," he says. "I was incredibly privileged."

During college, he spent much of his time rock climbing and skiing cross-country in the surrounding hills, overwhelmed by the natural beauty of the Champlain Valley. He was less enamored with classes, becoming quickly restless to see the outside world. "Middlebury to me was like this little island of oblivion and happiness and cluelessness," he says. For all of his criticisms, his professors remember him as an enthusiastic learner. "He was a very vital guy, who brought a lot of energy to class," says English and environmental studies professor John Elder. "He really wanted to get his teeth into it." Padnos developed a new interest in religion his senior year, taking courses all three terms with Jewish studies professor Robert Schine. "He had a very sensitive, inquiring mind," remembers Schine. "It was clear he was somebody of deep idealism, and also flighty and a little off the wall. He would have these ideas and not shrink from them."

Padnos was also responsible for bringing one of Middlebury's leading lights to campus. During college, he read the essays in the *New Yorker* by writer Bill McKibben that were in 1989 turned into *The End of Nature*, one of the first books to address the threat of climate change. Discovering that McKibben was living in the Adirondacks at the time, Padnos wrote him a letter, telling him he was his biggest fan, and urging him to come to Middlebury. It was among the first times McKibben, then 28, had been invited to speak anywhere. Padnos and a group of friends held a private reception for him at a farmhouse they were renting out in Cornwall before McKibben's talk to an overflow crowd at Dana Auditorium. "Ten thousand speeches later, I remember it well, mostly because of his enthusiasm," says McKibben, now a scholar in residence in environmental studies. "That was my introduction to Middlebury, and I'll always be grateful to him for it."

After Middlebury, Padnos earned his PhD in comparative literature at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, at the same time teaching English part time at the Woodstock Regional Correctional Facility in Vermont, a few miles down the street from the Bridgewater farmhouse. He wrote a self-deprecating memoir of the experience, called *My Life Had Stood a Loaded Gun*, published in 2004. By that point, Padnos had become restless once again. Disillusioned by the re-election of President George W. Bush, he decided to take the money he'd saved and move to the Middle East to try his hand at journalism. "I was like, I can't deal with another four years of this nonsense, and I bought the plane ticket to Yemen."

Despite the gathering presence of al Qaeda in Yemen, the capital city of Sana'a was still a bastion of stability, centered around a historic old city, full of multistory apartment houses with balconies and arches, that has been named a UNESCO World Heritage Site. "I had the most gorgeous apartment in the city for $300 a month," says Padnos. "I could have lived there forever." With his natural curiosity, Padnos set about learning Arabic and taking classes at a religious school that promoted an extremist view of Islam. Eventually he wrote a book about the experience, *Undercover Muslim: A Journey into Yemen*. Widely praised by reviewers, it focuses on the stories of disaffected Muslim youth and their growing gulf with values of the West.

When civil war broke out in Syria in 2011, Padnos saw an opportunity to further investigate those themes, and began pitching articles to editors in New York and London. Without a solid track record, however, his pitches fell on deaf ears. He decided to get a leg up by reporting from the region, leaving in the fall of 2012 for Turkey. His father suggested he stop off in Paris on the way, but Padnos declined, saying he would only

be gone a few weeks and would visit on his way back. At the time he was in almost daily contact with his mother, whom he was helping buy a new woodstove for the farmhouse in Vermont. When he stopped emailing suddenly, she grew alarmed.

A week later, she got a cryptic email from him, with the subject line "Hey" but no body text.

Then nothing.

On Padnos's first night in captivity, amazingly, he was able to wriggle out of his handcuffs and flee out the door of the house in which he was being held. He flagged down a passing minibus, screaming, "Take me to the Free Syrian Army!" The driver took him to an army post, where the soldiers served him tea and falafel. While he was waiting to make a phone call, his kidnappers arrived. The officers released him back into the arms of the men who had beaten him, who then turned him over to the al-Nusra Front, which was then making its headquarters in the city's children's hospital.

He was locked in a small hospital room, where he could hear the screams of prisoners being tortured. In his free moments, he turned his situation over and over in his mind, wondering how he could have been so stupid. Finally, it was his turn; one of his captors told him to prepare to be executed in five minutes; then led him down the hall into the torture room, strewn with steel cables and ropes. They put his head in a noose and stood him on a stepladder, with his hands tied behind his back. Then, his captors questioned him for 40 minutes, alternately trying to make him confess he was a CIA agent and grilling him about his sex life in Turkey and Syria. It was the first of many torture sessions Padnos underwent, each time wondering if it would be the last.

"During the torture sessions, you feel like they are in the act of killing you, and you imagine yourself dying," says Padnos. "And they would do that constantly to me. But if you don't actually die, you survive."

Padnos persevered by analyzing his situation, trying to understand what the terrorists were trying to accomplish. From his studies in Islam, he knew one of the central tenets of the faith was humility.

"I understood they were trying to have me acknowledge my own puniness in relation to the powers that rule the universe," he says. "But what they really want is allegiance to the commanders. They want personal control over you." From the beginning, they leveled accusations against him for America's crimes, such as using the atom bomb against the Japanese in World War II, or persecuting Native Americans. "I said, 'But of course, I know this better than you,'" Padnos says.

But then their narratives would veer off course, his captors telling him, for example, that archaeologists had found Muslim inscriptions in Native American burying grounds, proof that they were Muslims.

"When they talk like this, you know you've entered into someone else's dream," says Padnos. "And I was being held to account for that dream." Still, he had empathy for his captors. "They believed I had come to destroy their families, to dismantle their religion, their mosques. So I tried to correct them and disabuse them of this notion," he says. "But it is also true in a way; we have bombed mosques in Iraq and Afghanistan; we have invaded places they consider sacred."

The one person during his ordeal he had trouble sympathizing with was an American photographer, Matt Schrier, who was put into the same cell after a few months. Padnos says they developed a dysfunctional relationship, with Schrier taking out his fear and frustrations by screaming in his face and cursing for hours on end. At the insistence of their guards, Schrier converted to Islam, after which, Padnos says, he received better treatment; Padnos was punished for refusing to convert. Finally, they were moved into another cell in the basement of the department of motor vehicles, where there was a window high up in the wall.

They spent days bending back the grille, practicing climbing up to escape. Finally in the predawn hours during Ramadan, Padnos agreed to let Schrier climb up on his back, with the agreement that he would then turn around and pull Padnos up. Schrier had difficulty squeezing through the window, kicking his legs in a panic to get himself through.

"It was like rock climbing," says Padnos. "You get to the point in the climb where you could fall at any moment, and when you get to that point, if you panic then you really fall." After calming Schrier down, Padnos's cell mate was able to wriggle through the window, and he turned to pull Padnos up. When Padnos was halfway through, however, Schrier panicked again, worried someone was coming. He ran away, promising to find help. When the guards returned, they beat Padnos so hard he couldn't walk for several days. He waited three weeks in the same cell, waiting for someone to come. He would remain in captivity for more than another year.

The whole time that Padnos was held captive, his family was frantically trying to locate him. Since his father shared Padnos's last name, which he had used to write his *Undercover Muslim* book, the family agreed he would take a backseat in the rescue efforts. His mother and several cousins reached out to everyone they could in government. According to Curtis, the FBI seemed genuinely concerned, though limited in its ability to intervene; the State Department, she says, was not helpful. "They were like, 'Go away, don't bother us. What do you expect us to do?'" Curtis says.

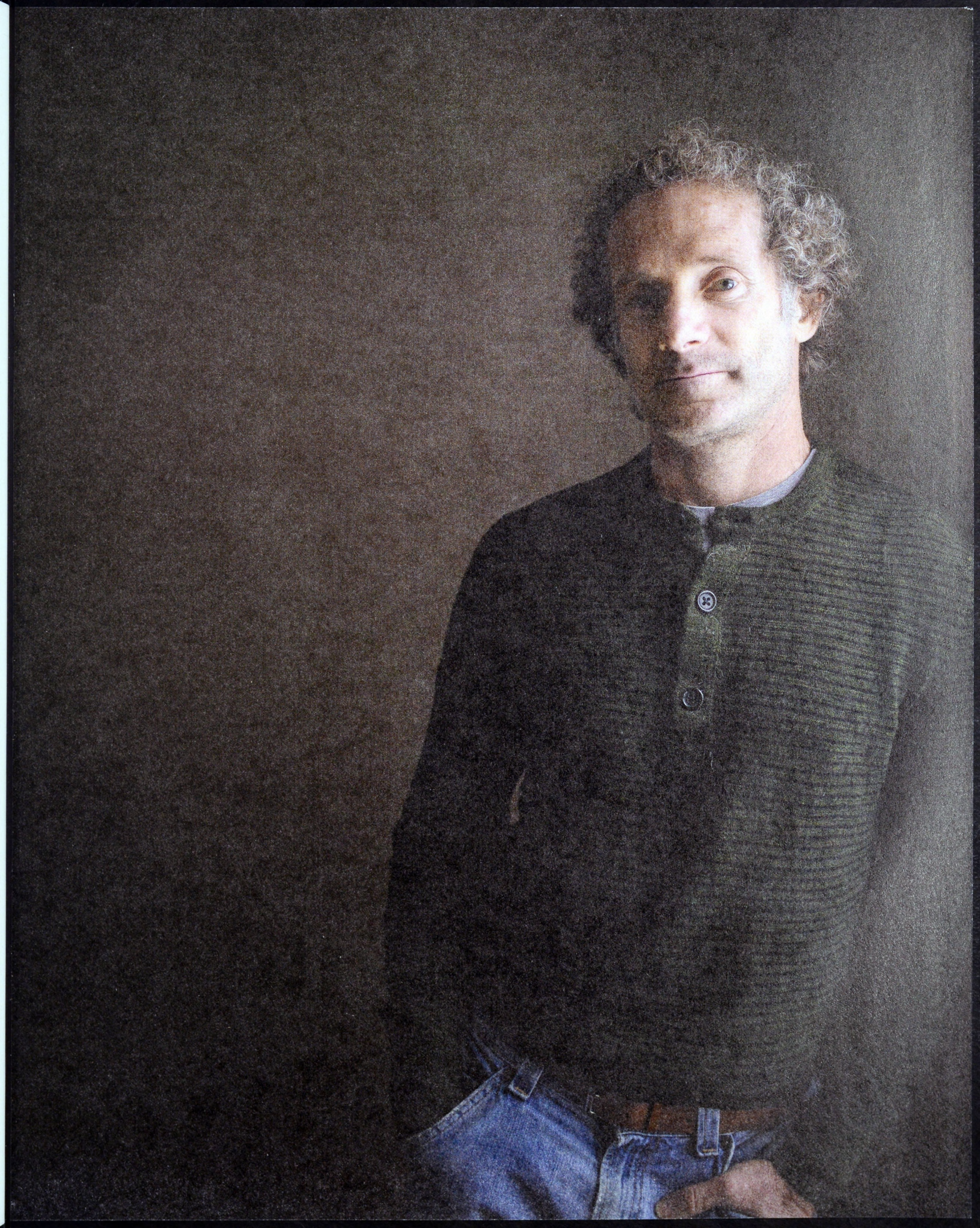
Ironically, when Schrier got out of the country with news of Padnos's whereabouts, it made the family even more anxious. "If you don't know anything, you live in a world of wishful thinking," says Curtis. Knowing he was in the hands of terrorists, however, both of his parents fell into a prolonged depression.

"You can't survive with a constant high level of anxiety," says Curtis. "You have to shut down your emotions." Even so, thoughts of her son constantly emerged. "Every time I was having a wonderful meal with a friend, I'd think to myself, Theo can't do this," says Curtis. "That's when I'd get really sad."

Solace came unexpectedly from one of the few people in the world who could relate. A month after Padnos was captured, another American journalist named James Foley was also kidnapped by al Qaeda in Syria. Curtis bonded with his mother, Diane, who inspired her with her tenacity. "If anyone was going to get out, it was going to be Jim. She was down in Washington all the time, talking with religious leaders and congresspeople," she says. "She was just relentless."

One of the people Foley sought out was David Bradley, the owner of Atlantic Media (publisher of the *Atlantic* magazine) who had helped free her son when he was previously captured in Libya. In May 2014, Bradley convened a meeting with Foley, Curtis, and parents of three other American hostages to help coordinate their efforts. It has long been official U.S. policy not to pay ransoms for hostages, though unofficially it has done so in the past (and in fact freed American soldier Bowe Bergdahl in a prisoner swap that same month). Bradley began reaching out to officials in Washington, at the same time back-channeling negotiations through Qatar, a country in the Middle East that is friendly to the U.S. but retains ties with al-Qaeda leaders.

By this time, Padnos had been moved into a small, windowless cell in



Deir ez-Zor, a city on the other side of the country close to Iraq. There, he spent 200 days in the stifling hot cell, not even large enough for him to stretch out to sleep. His guards slipped him some pieces of paper, and he began writing. As usual, his thoughts turned to the cool woods of Vermont as he began composing a story to explain his captivity to himself. In his story, a small Vermont town called Shepherd's Crossing—suspiciously similar to the rundown milltown of Bridgewater—suddenly begins undergoing mysterious arson attacks that terrorize the populace. Eventually a cult leader named Hippie Jim comes down from his commune on the hill to help clean up the mess and help the residents.

"This is what happened in Syria in the beginning of the war, where things just began to blow up, and nobody knew who was responsible," he says. Eventually Hippie Jim begins to garner a following among the disgruntled townsfolk, who look to the neighboring town of Shelton—a posh town of boutiques and tourist restaurants, much like Woodstock—with a mix of anger and envy. The Syrian region Padnos was now living in was rich in both natural resources and anti-government sentiment, not unlike many parts of the U.S. "People feel as though the resources have been stolen from them."

Originally, Padnos was writing to pass the time, with no hope of anyone else reading the story. As the guards began becoming curious about what he was scribbling, however, he began like Scheherezade in *One Thousand and One Nights* to tell them the story, explaining his views on their situation, and indulging in their requests to get to the parts with sex and romance. They listened raptly to his tale, softening and asking questions as they did. "They were interested in what I thought of their revolution," Padnos says. "'It is good? Is it bad? What do you make of what is going on?'" Some of them became friendlier, giving him occasional prized gifts of oranges and tuna. And every so often, one of them would disappear, killed in the fighting.

IF THERE WAS ANY SILVER LINING IN PADNOS'S SITUATION, it was that he remained in custody of al-Nusra, and not the Islamic State (ISIS), which splintered from al Qaeda in Syria in 2013. As tensions grew between these former allies, Padnos received personal attention from Abu Maria al-Qahtani, the new leader of al Qaeda in Syria, who took Padnos with him when he fled with several hundred fighters to Daraa in far southern Syria near Jordan. For the next several months, Padnos was constantly at his side, unshackled, listening to the sheik as he unburdened himself of his troubles fighting the Americans, the Syrian government, and increasingly his former allies in ISIS. At one point, Padnos again tried to escape, but was again recaptured. He was forced to make a video saying he would be executed in three days, but the blow never came.

James Foley was not so lucky. Unlike Padnos, he was transferred to the custody of ISIS. On August 19, 2014, the terrorists released a grisly YouTube video showing a black-clad jihadist beheading an American dressed in an orange jumpsuit out in the desert. It was Foley. Things began to move quickly after that. Despite the official policy not to ransom hostages, the State Department entered into negotiations through Qatar to get Padnos out. The first glimmer of hope that Curtis allowed herself was when an FBI agent called and asked for his shoe size.

A few days after Foley's death, the terrorists drove Padnos to a meeting with two United Nations trucks. With little ceremony, they led him into one of them, which drove the three hours to Tel Aviv, Israel. Despite warnings from the FBI to stay in his hotel room that night, Padnos couldn't contain himself. He left and started running down the beach, ecstatic at the feel of sand beneath his feet. "Suddenly I was aware of the vastness of the world," he says. "It was mind-blowing." He immediately began talking to everyone he could—befriending a couple of Canadian tourists and bringing them back to his hotel for late-night boozing.

On one level, he realized that such blind trust was what had gotten him into trouble in the first place. "But on the other, I was aware of the person I wanted to become again, someone who engaged with the world and had an open, loving relationship with people."

When he flew back to the States, his mother met him at the airport, where the two exhaustedly embraced. Practically the first words out of his mouth were, "I wrote a novel. It's good—and I can't wait to get it published." They spent their first weeks holed up in Curtis's apartment in Cambridge, avoiding the press, and just reveling in the sudden truth of each other's presence. Padnos's captivity had affected the whole family. "It was suddenly as if an enormous stone had been lifted from my shoulders," says his father. "I suddenly felt like I could stand again, I could smile, I could breathe."

For the documentary about his ordeal, the filmmakers interviewed Curtis in her farmhouse in Vermont, and nearby they constructed the prison cells where Padnos lived during his captivity. He sits inside them, guilelessly narrating the details of his torture. For Padnos, the shoddiness of the film sets wasn't wholly different from the experience of being in the cells themselves.

"When you arrive in these places, they are like, 'This is our Islamic emirate,' and you go, 'This little flimsy nothingness? You mean the cosmic battle between Good and Evil is supposed to happen in this crappy little jail cell?'"

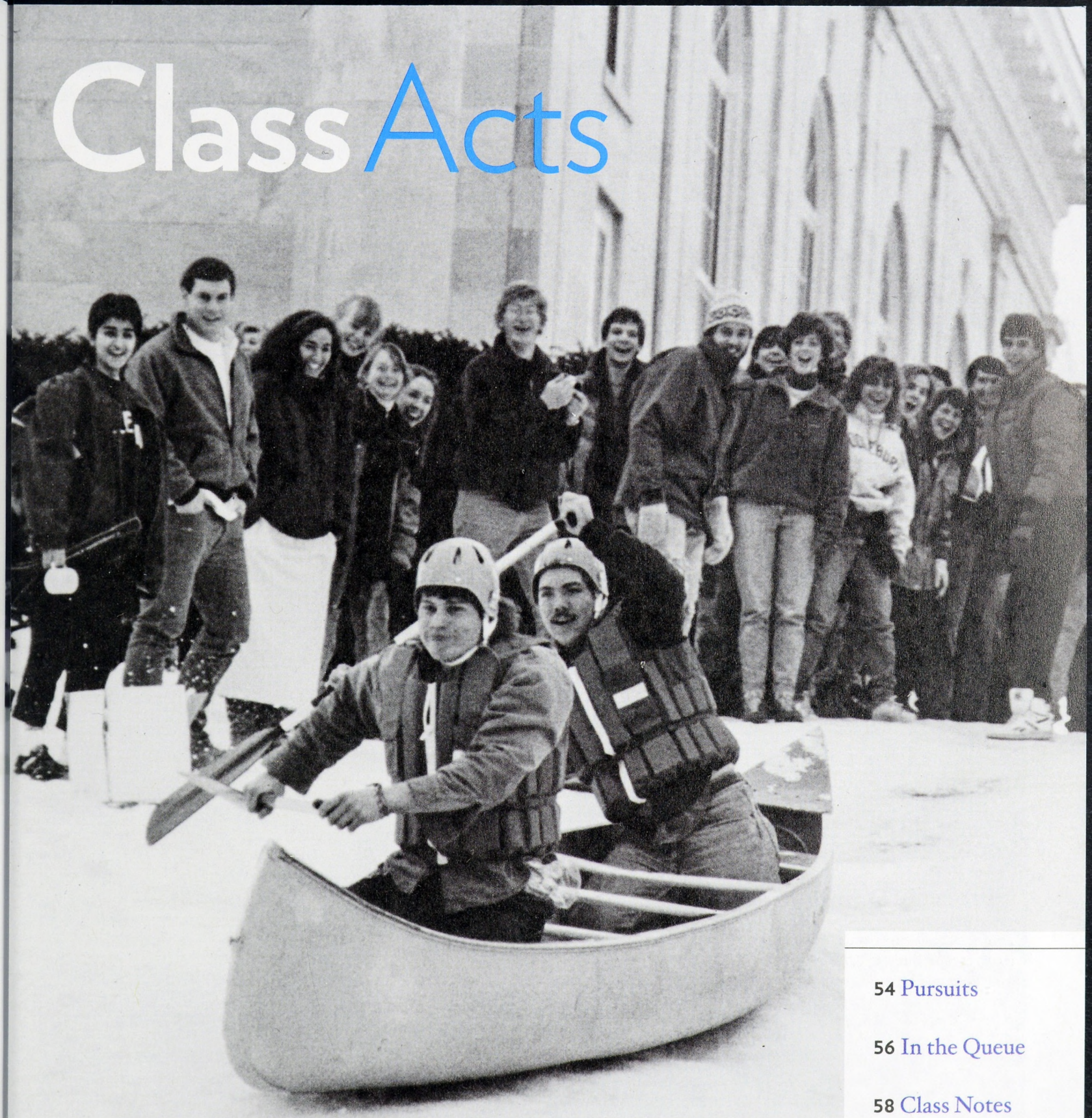
Shortly after his return, Padnos moved to Paris, where he rides his bike to visit his father several times a week. There he is working on editing his Vermont novel, hoping to get it published. At the same time, he has returned to journalism, with an article about Muslim youth in Paris set to come out in *Rolling Stone* this spring; and he is working on a multimedia theater performance about his captivity, which he hopes to get staged in Paris or Berlin.

For his part, Padnos is against U.S. intervention in the Syrian civil war. "As soon as we give weapons to Mr. Reasonable over here, 20 minutes later they end up in the hands of ISIS," he says. While he allows that some particularly brutal terrorist commanders may need to be taken out, for the most part he sees bombing militants as only perpetuating the cycle of violence. "The reason the regime is bombing Aleppo is because we keep giving them missiles," he says. "If we stopped giving them a target, then women and children would live. Right now 15 million people are living under Bashar al-Assad, and they are still going to university every day. It's not great but it's not the end of the world."

Surprisingly, he is still in touch through Twitter with some of his captors, whom he is trying to convince to leave the jihad. "These guys have moms and kids and wives," he says. "They want to leave, but they don't have the money." As outwardly unaffected as he seems from his experience, his parents do see a new cautiousness and maturity in his outlook; his actions are less headstrong, more thoughtful. "He has always been a risk-taker, but he is not going to endanger himself again," says Curtis. "I am more worried about him riding his bike in Paris at this point."

One thing that has not changed, however, is the impulse that brought him to Syria in the first place—a desire to understand a very complicated part of the world, and translate it into terms that the average American can understand. "I tell him he is the most important person in the world," says his father. "He is the one person who has seen the belly of the beast, and knows what it's like from the inside. He can speak to them in their language, and speak to us in our language. It's what the world needs to hear." M

Class Acts



Don't try this at home! This favored tradition of yesteryear—sledding down from Mead Chapel in a canoe (!)—isn't allowed on campus anymore, even with helmets.

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By Leah Fessler '15

The Shopkeeper

Millennials have a reputational rap sheet a mile long. They speak in emojis. They still live with their parents. They'd rather marry their start-up company than a soul mate, and they disdain conformity. ¶ For instance: "I was never interested in a standard nine-to-five job," says Cade Schreger '15. "I always wanted to create my own thing, to design my own content and schedule. Not that there's anything wrong with working for a boss, I just knew I'd be happier working for myself, developing a business plan I was passionate about."

Schreger is the co-owner of Brooklyn's newest comic book shop, Mama Says Comics Rock, and if the idea of a millennial comic-book-shop owner—*in Brooklyn*—seems to confirm every negative stereotype you've ever held about the millennial generation, you'd be forgiven. And quite possibly wrong.

While Schreger may be an alum of Brooklyn Heights's arts-oriented St. Ann's School—where grades aren't distributed and creativity is highly rewarded—his off-the-beaten-path sensibilities have always had a grounding in reality. Which is why his father, a well-known lawyer and Brooklyn native, first chuckled at his son's entrepreneurial notion and then quickly started talking business strategy.

"Our conversations went from 'Oh, wouldn't this be nice,' to 'Here's how this actually *could* work,' and eventually 'Here's how this *will* work,'" says Schreger of his discussions with his father. (One of the biggest factors, both Schregers say, was the closing of Bergen Comics in nearby Park Slope. The store's owners plied Schreger and his business partner with advice—and delivered a community hungry for a new store.) Just six months later, Mama Says Comics Rock—adorned with DIY urban decor, bright white walls, and hundreds of comics—opened.

Perfectly at home among the mom-and-pop shops in Brooklyn's Cobble Hill, Mama Says has received a warm welcome. "The community has been nothing but kind," says Schreger, who is focused on catering to the area's dense population of young families. Growing up in Brooklyn Heights, Schreger frequented local comic shops, drawn to both the amicable comic crowd and the supply of books that nurtured his obsession with Batman. Aware of the "nerd-in-the-basement" stereotype, Schreger also appreciates how comics unite readers across genders, ethnicities, and social classes. "What I've always admired about comics is the culture and community, especially from the readers," says Schreger. "I've been amazed that almost everyone who walks into our store is not only nice and approachable, but genuinely loves the world of comics, and how it can be this bridge between prose and artistic expression."

To succeed, Schreger knows that his store must be community oriented, which is why Mama Says features the work of local artists along with your standard Marvel and DC Comics fare and also holds regular events. (In September, the shop hosted the 10th anniversary celebration for a graphic novel imprint, First Second Publishing, which is a subsidiary of Macmillan.) "Our goal is to create a place where people know they can go to find comics, hang out, and bring their kids, or meet up with other people inside the community," says Schreger. "If we can provide a little break in somebody's day, even if it's just five minutes of relaxing conversation, it's worth it."

A neuroscience major, Schreger is fascinated by the psychology of human behavior, and he says that his interest in human interaction has made retail a natural fit. As for running a business, he says that Mama Says is meeting his early financial goals, though he declines to say what those are. The shop had a very good holiday season, and as Mama Says approaches its one-year anniversary, Schreger is cautiously optimistic about its future. Which is a rather conventional thought—for a millenial. M

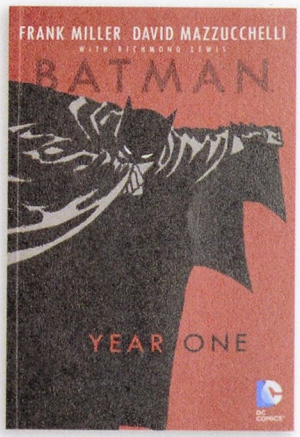
PARALLELS

THE BUSINESS PARTNER

Schreger's co-owner is his childhood best friend, Davey Kourtesis, an Emerson College grad. And while many advise to keep work and personal life separate, Schreger and Kourtesis wouldn't have it any other way. "Spending a lot of time together could drive two friends crazy," says Schreger. "But Davey and I have never had that problem, personally or professionally. That's something I'll never take for granted."

ORIGIN STORY

Since its release in 1987, *Batman: Year One* has been considered the premier origin story for the caped crusader, who also happens to be the first comic book character Schreger fell in love with.



THE ALLURE OF EVIL

While Batman may be Schreger's first love, it's the Joker who has stolen his heart. "Whether it's the complex craziness of his psyche, the number of different takes on his character, or the way he affects all of the other players in the Batman universe, the Joker has always been a character that I've been drawn to and constantly want to learn more about," he says.

PHOTOS BY JON ROEMER

BOOK REVIEW

Alice in Jerseyland

Sometimes trying to have it all doesn't go so smoothly for the working mom.

By Blair Kloman, MA English '94

The Book Lady has a good gig. Every Saturday morning, she sells books to her dad, uses the money to stock up on Jolly Rancher candies, then collects the books at the end of the day to sell to her father all over again the next weekend.

This is how *A Window Opens* by Elisabeth Egan '95 begins, and it sets a foreshadowing tone for the story that is about to unfold—one part innocence and one part commerce.

When we next meet Alice (the Book Lady all grown up), she is deep in the swirl of suburban New Jersey life—a somewhat distracted mother, mainly happy wife, dutifully attendant daughter, and part-time magazine editor.

The glitch that gets things going is her husband's sudden (and self-imposed) firing from his big-time law firm in New York—followed by his half-baked idea to hang out a shingle of his own and open a small-town law office. Consequently, Alice needs to step up her income game. But rather than taking small steps back into the world of full-time work, she leaps into a loosely defined position at an even more loosely defined emerging all-things-to-everyone company. It's called Scroll, in a lofty effort to imply ties to the oldest of all reading material, and Alice takes a role in its trendy spin-off, MainStreet—ironically named since everything it stands for seems to predetermine the death of actual Main Streets everywhere.

In the midst of this major transition, Alice's three children—including a preteen girl—go through various stages of defiance and neediness, her husband decides he likes beer more than work, and her beloved father experiences a nasty recurrence of his cancer.

Over the course of a year, duly marked by sections named for the changing seasons, Alice grapples with all that's thrown her way. With its

ILLUSTRATION BY AUDE VAN RYN

chameleon-like evolution from trend to trend, the mega-company she's working for begins to splinter out of control—and seems to mirror all that is wrong with Alice's life as well. Too much too fast, without solid foundation.

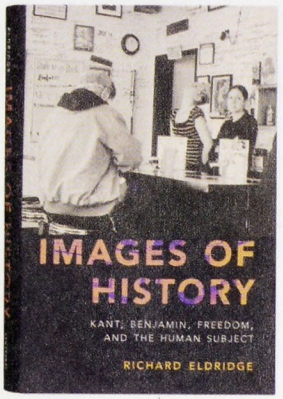
The final third of the book works to put things right. With her good humor intact—she refers to herself as the "horse in the parking lot" amongst the younger, hipper "Scrollers"—she tries to make the best of nearly every situation. Even as she leaves her job, she doesn't miss an opportunity for playful revenge by vigorously shaking a seltzer bottle before delivering it to her cucumber-cool boss for their final tearless goodbye lunch.

Ultimately Alice creates for herself and her family a life that, while far from perfect, is meaningful—and fun. M

EXCERPT

The presentation focused on the unique culture established by our company's boy genius leaders. We learned that employees took great pride in being wacky; if we passed a special test, we could even win a yellow ID lanyard indicating our wackiness. (I made a note in my notebook: "Investigate Wacky Test.") We saw a video clip of our leaders' speeches at a ribbon cutting for Heritage Towne: "We don't just sell merchandise, we sell the future."

MainStreet employees referred to the Cleveland office as "Big Daddy." And Genevieve was right: most of the women did wear blazers. The men wore hoodies, and ninety-eight percent of them also had beards. Others had ponytails; many had both. People at MainStreet dove deep, jumped on a call, explored topics from a 30,000-foot perspective, and opened their kimonos to each other. When MainStreeters moved into a different "space," they weren't referring to a new office.



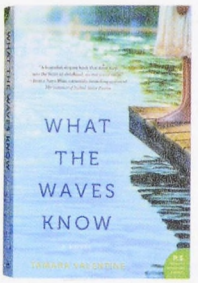
Historical Reality

By Stanley Bates, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy

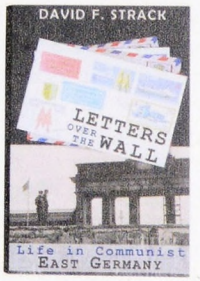
In his new book, *Images of History: Kant, Benjamin, Freedom and the Human Subject*, Richard Eldridge '75 attempts to deal with the traditional philosophical issue of how the abstract rules and principles of our moral thinking are developed, and how they relate to the actual historical reality of our situated existence. He first characterizes this problem, and then reflects on it in a sensitive reading of several, relatively neglected, texts by Kant (works on history and religion), and several important texts of Walter Benjamin. This book is not for philosophical beginners, but it richly rewards careful reading.

Richard Eldridge is the Charles and Harriet Cox McDowell Professor of Philosophy at Swarthmore College. He belongs to a group of philosophers greatly influenced by both Kant and Wittgenstein. The progenitor of this group is the philosopher Stanley Cavell, whose reading of Wittgenstein, and subsequent explorations of Shakespeare, Romanticism, and American Transcendentalism, showed philosophers the way to a broader understanding of their subject. Eldridge has grasped this opportunity and has made the most of it. One strand of this project is what I shall call naturalizing Kant. It is an attempt to detach those aspects of Kant's philosophy that seem plausible and persuasive from his Transcendental Idealism, which few can accept. In this book, Eldridge shows how Kant's view of morality has a place for cultural specificity and historical groundedness. M

EDITORS' PICKS

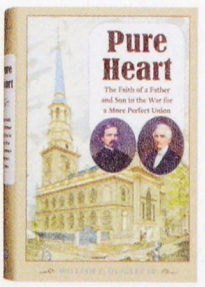


TAMARA VALENTINE
What the Waves Know
In this beautiful debut novel by Tamara Valentine-Garcia, MA English '00, a child attempts to find her voice, both literally and figuratively, after a tragedy renders her mute.



DAVID F. STRACK
Letters Over the Wall
Letters written by four East Germans over the years to David Strack, MA German '71, paint a riveting picture of what life was like behind the Berlin Wall.

DAN ELISH
The Worldwide Dessert Contest
In this playful children's book, Dan Elish '83 introduces John Applefeller, a chef whose apple desserts unexpectedly change into other things at the last second during contests.



WILLIAM F. QUIGLEY JR.
Pure Heart
William Quigley '78 documents the relationship between a father and son, one a reverend, the other a soldier, during the Civil War as each faces battles creating divisive factions.

ClassActs

Directors of the Middlebury Alumni Association (MAA) Wendy Russell Tracy '95, President • Thomas D. Steinle '84, Vice President • Robert V. Sideli '77, Past President • Michelle E. Cady '08 • Skip A. D'Aliso '79 • Kristen Forsberg '04, MIIS '07 • Janine Hetherington '95 • Shana Mitchell Hopkins '94 • Samuel S. Libby '09 • R. Drew Miller '03 • Anne Harris Onion '69 • Katie Rosin-Green '97

Ex Officio: Meg Storey Groves '85, Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations and Annual Giving • Beth Connor, Director of Alumni and Parent Programs • Jeffrey Stauch '05, Director of Annual Giving

If anyone in the Classes of 1935, 1936, 1937, or 1938 would like to share news with the Middlebury community, please send it to Sara Marshall, Alumni Editor, 152 College St., Middlebury Magazine, Middlebury, VT 05753 or to smarshal@middlebury.edu.

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I went to Middlebury as a gangling boy from the streets of Manhattan. I had gone to a prep school on Park Avenue and Middlebury was quite a change, nestled in Vermont with a view of the mountains. But I enjoyed the change and graduated a mature young man, ready to face life with courage and determination. Now as an old man my work is done and I've proved my worth as a graduate of Midd. The College did its job of educating me well and I would like to return for four more years! • Sometimes on a day I hear the choir of Middlebury singing "March, march, down the field, fighting for dear old Midd. UVM may fight to the end, but Midd will win." Why this song, I cannot say but all I have to add is "Hip, Hip, Hooray!"

—Class Correspondent: A. Roger Clarke (arogerclarke@aol.com), 7 Rundel Park, Rochester, NY 14607.

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If you have any news you'd like to share, please send it to Sara Marshall, 152 College St., Middlebury Magazine, Middlebury, VT 05753 or to smarshal@middlebury.edu.

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If you have any news you'd like to share, please send it to one of us.

—Class Correspondents: Elizabeth Wolfington Hubbard-Ovens, 22 Inverness Dr., Apt. I-116, New Hartford, NY 13413; Margaret Shaub, 7 Aspen Dr., Apt. 236, South Burlington, VT 05403.

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REUNION CLASS Sandra Steinglass Townsend '66 sent this note: **Ira (Ike) Peabody Townsend**, 96, died peacefully on September 26. The son of Phillip and Maybelle Townsend, he attended Lebanon (N.H.) High School, did a postgraduate year at Kimball Union Academy (KUA), and graduated from Middlebury in three years, to enlist in the Navy in 1941. He served as a pilot and aviation instrument instructor during World War II. While at Middlebury, Ira was captain and coach of the ski team. He married Sara Martenis '41 in 1943 while he was stationed in Corpus Christi, Texas. After the war, they both went to work as teachers at Kimball Union Academy in Meriden, N.H., where they lived until 2010 when they moved to Harvest Hill in Lebanon. Besides teaching math and coaching skiing, Ira was the business and property manager for KUA until retiring in 1985. He was a trustee of KUA and Alice Peck Day Hospital, president of Mascoma Savings Bank, and a longtime volunteer in the Meriden Fire Dept. At KUA he managed the Townsend Scholarship Fund for prospective students. Ira loved the outdoors, skiing, camping, cutting hiking and ski trails for KUA and the Meriden community, gardening, splitting wood, and especially flying. In his 80s, after giving up flying his Cessna airplane, he and daughter Patricia built an ultralight airplane and flew it all over the Upper Valley, taking off from the runway he had built behind their home for take-off and landing of the Cessna. Ira was also a craftsman, experimenting with welding, woodworking, and other creative projects during the winter months. The distinctive road signs that he carved for the town of Meriden are a lasting testimony to his industrious nature and community spirit. He was loved and admired for his strong moral character, self-reliance, public service, and creative approach to new challenges. He is survived by his wife of 73 years, Sara, daughter Patricia, son James and daughter-in-law Sandra, grandchildren Julia (MIIS '09), and Torrey and his wife Laura.

—Class Correspondent: Nancy Hall Whitehouse (whitehousenancy@ymail.com), 75 State St., Unit 61, Portland, ME 04101.

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Correspondent **Jean Jordan Sheild** reports: I had a delightful chat with **Carolyn Ohlander DePodwin** recently. She is still enjoying her life at Arbor View in Pompton Plains, N.J. Although her vision is limited, she takes walks around the grounds every morning. She has found Talking Books to be very rewarding and recommends them to anyone who is sight impaired. She enjoyed one about John Adams and another about Susan B. Anthony. Recently she fell and fractured a rib, which was a bit painful. But she said it wasn't as bad as the fall she took in Greece many years ago. She and husband Horace '44 were in Santorini on a sailboat. When they reached the dock she jumped for it but missed and fell. She was taken to a Greek hospital where they taped her up and gave her painkillers for her six broken ribs! We compared notes on our great-grandchildren. Hers are Jack and Juliet, who live nearby. They helped her celebrate her 95th birthday in April. • I regret to report the death of **Alice Landis Tonry** on July 5. Following graduation in 1943, Alice worked in the Rockefeller Foundation in New York City. She joined the Army and later attended Tufts Medical School on the GI Bill graduating in '51. She married Herb Tonry in '52. He already had two children and together they had four more. When they were grown she became a real estate broker. Later she and Herb established a Christmas tree farm in Hampton Falls, N.H. After her husband died in 1991, Alice continued to drive the tractor on the Christmas tree farm, now run by the family. Whenever I called her for news, she always cheerfully explained what fun it was to drive the tractor around the Christmas trees and look forward to seeing the families selecting their special trees at Christmastime. At Middlebury Alice was always fun to be with and had a delightful sense of humor. I'll always remember her impish smile and droll comments about life in general. She will never be forgotten. • Life is going well for **Lois Groben Gilmore**. Last summer when her housemaid went to England, her daughter, Christie, came to stay with her for a few days. They enjoyed several activities together. RiverCourt, where Lois lives, is a retirement community that provides all kinds of things to do. Lois was looking forward to a lobsterfest the next day. More than half of the residents are over 90 so they have a lot in common and she's made many new friends. She is currently sharing her apartment with Walter Paterson, a Middlebury alum from the Class of '50. He's a great guy who helped her close her house among other things. They have their meals together and enjoy the musical programs and travelogues, as well as trips to museums that the management provides. Recently they took a trip to the Fruitlands Museum where Lois used to work. They have two cats to complete their happy situation. • Correspondent **Stuart Walker** reports: I was so glad to hear about **John Gale** through his daughter, Judith, and to hear he is doing well and has many solicitous ladies in his harem. She says, "I am writing on my father's behalf to let you know that even though he no longer has a computer, and his vision is too poor to allow him to do much reading, he is eager to hear from his friends and family by email (as well as snail mail and phone). I am checking his email regularly (jsgale22@gmail.com) and forwarding messages for him from friends and family to his two private aides, Mary Grace Sellars and Krisy Sims. They will be happy to read your messages to John and type his replies for him from their email accounts. So if you see any emails from them, it is actually an email from John Gale. Also here is his new cell phone number: 919-368-4759. He really wants to stay in touch with you all and welcomes your news when you have time to write. Thanks for your friendship and love for him." • I attended the third annual Stuart Walker Regatta on Lake Dunmore near Middlebury. It was a beautiful day of sailing and camaraderie—even though we were trounced by Tufts. • I hope that you are conserving your strength so as to return to Middlebury for our 75th reunion in two years.

—Class Correspondent: Jean Jordan Sheild (sheildfamily@

gmail.com), 4408 Winnequah Road, Monona, WI 53716; Stuart Walker (stuarthodgewalker@gmail.com), 1888 Luce Creek Dr., Annapolis, MD 21401.

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If you have any news to share with classmates, please send it to us!
—Class Correspondents: Ruth Wheaton Evans (rrwe@verizon.net), 80 Salisbury St., Unit 603, Worcester, MA 01609; Elizabeth Ring Hennefrund (eliz.bet@earthlink.net), 397 Old Sherman Hill Rd., Woodbury, CT 06798.

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Barbara Abel writes from New York City of a vague memory of a tree planting ceremony at graduation. Neither she nor I remember the details. What do you remember? A May 3, 1945, issue of the *Middlebury Campus* says that plans were being made for the first complete commencement exercises since the spring of 1943. It reads, "Although excluding many of the traditional activities of past commencement weekends, the senior committees propose to revive the faculty-parent reception and tea of past years, the chapel procession and tree planting ceremony, and a regular class dinner in Battell dining hall for presentation of prizes and honors." • **Elaine King Dandh** continues to enjoy her retirement village in south Texas and reports as follows: "My book grows slowly. Lately I've been seeking out oldsters here asking them to be characters in the book. It's a great way to get acquainted. We celebrated my 93rd birthday on October 1 in the ice cream bar, with nothing stronger than ginger ale." • I (**Mew**) continue to enjoy living in my CCRC in Peterborough, N.H., eleven years now, eight as a widow. At 93, I am still doing Sudokus, swimming daily, knitting triangular shawls for my friends against those evening drafts, and writing weekly emails to friends and family. I am the family matriarch in both my and my husband's families. Awesome to be alone at the top. At Middlebury, of 250 entering students in 1941, men and women, there are 50 remaining. We are not alone! Let's keep in touch. "**Mew**"
—Class Correspondent: Mary Elizabeth Wisotzkey McClellan (maryliz124@comcast.net), 124 RiverMead Rd., Peterborough, NH 03458.

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Correspondent **Joan Campbell Shaw** reports: In reply to my plea for news, **Jeanne Picard Johnson**, wrote about a time when she was the correspondent. "I had my info but got busy packing for one of our long travel trips. I was all ready for the trip and decided to go outside for a last minute suntan. What reminded me I don't know, but I suddenly woke up to the class notes and dashed inside to type them while Art almost had a nervous breakdown. They were boarding the standbys when we got to the airport!" She went on to say that she recently landed in the hospital and spent the weekend being treated for diverticulitis. Pic added, "I was absolutely crushed not to make it to reunion—first time! I doubt if I'll be around in 2021." New address: 800 Rice Valley Rd. N, Apt A-8, Tuscaloosa, AL 35406. Also her phone number was incorrect in the directory printed for reunion. Her number is 205-349-8768. • **Jan Shaw Percival** writes, "I had a great vacation on Cape Cod last summer. All my children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren were there! We celebrated my birthday although it was a bit early. And we're sorry we missed reunion—hope it was a great time!" • An update came from **Mary Selleck Hellekjaer**. "I am fine. This past fall I went on a 10-day cruise to New England and Maritime Canada. We took a bus to the ship in Baltimore and were off. The leaves hadn't turned yet but the weather was perfect." • **Mary Elizabeth Cummings Nordstrom** writes, "I'm keeping busy doing activities here at Huntington Common, such as practicing piano to play a 50-minute afternoon informal program of Cole Porter and contemporaries. I also play hymns for weekly chapel. I'm trying to locate a second-edition publisher for *Unlaundered Cache and Other Poems*, of which I self-published only 170 copies." Mary Elizabeth notes that she has downsized once again and her new address is 1 Huntington Common Dr., #160, Kennebunk, ME 04043. • **Barbara Busing Harris** also replied. "It was great to see you and the other few at our 70th reunion! Five of us women, all together with our daughters and one niece, who all seemed to have a great time, too. I especially liked meeting the new president. My life is still the same. I'm not driving anymore, per request of my kids, but I'm still playing bridge and running the library in the Woodside Building where I live in the Taylor Community in Laconia, N.H. Best wishes to all." (Correspondent's note: The sixth returning classmate was **Charles L. Cutting Jr.**, who was accompanied by his wife, Betty Dean Custer '49. In the cover picture of the reunion booklet, Charles is misnamed.) • We regret to report the death of **Mado Gaston Fetzer** on August 5. Mado attended Middlebury for two years and then married her fiancé, William, who was in the service during the war. We send our condolences to her husband and family. • I (**Cam**) thought of some news of my own. My daughter Betsy, husband Ian, their daughters, Esther and Isla, along with a dog, guinea pig, and horse and pony have moved into my home in Manchester Center, Vt., partly to avoid the daily commute from their home in Middletown Springs since Esther is now a freshman at Burr and Burton Academy in Manchester and made the varsity soccer team (which involves a huge amount of practice and games) and partly to keep an eye on me, the ancient one! I am very happy to have them and the new household activity makes life interesting. • **Barbara "Flinkie" Flink Ewels** wrote about a trip that my daughter Sally and I (**Cam**) made from Manchester to Stoddard, N.H., by way of Peterborough, to pick her up. "We had a delightful sunny lunch on daughter Carolyn Ewels's deck overlooking Highland Lake. Then we went to see the view from the yurt belonging to my niece on Center Pond. We look forward to a repeat next spring!" • Correspondent **Betsy Barclay Wales** reports: **Peg Romer Jones** says my call caught her napping, as she was worn out by an early van ride to Walmart to buy necessities. "Living in a retirement residence one goes when the van goes. There are good people here and activities to keep us busy. I enjoy walking and exercise programs, sometimes attending musicals, and evening card and board games. I am responsible for leading a crafts class. I still volunteer one day a week at the local hospital as I have for 23 years. And thus the weeks fly by." • **Jean Luckhardt Stratton** says she and Bud are still vertical! But have no plans for exotic trips. They feel fortunate to have family visiting often. • **Gloria Antolini Keyser** lost her brother recently in California. This past summer she had a wonderful visit with his daughter and husband whom she had not known. She recognized a family resemblance. It was a special, precious time. • **Alice Thorn Laquer** has been living in Pine Run Community in Doylestown, Pa., for three years. She has a son down the road and a daughter in Iowa. She has six grandchildren and lots of weddings! Her daughter is a lawyer. • **Cindy Darby Westmoreland** celebrated her 92nd birthday in July with her family, including 10 great-grandchildren. She is grateful for her walker. • **Lucie Suter O'Brien** is living at home with help in New York City. • **Avery Post** has been at Kendall in Hanover, N.H., for 14 years and reports he is not doing well. His wife, Peg, died six years ago. • **Mary Nasmith Means** has given up her piano playing because of arthritis and has learned not to bring up politics in her living situation. Her computer-helping friend took off when Mary was not complimentary to Mr. Trump. She wonders if others remember Dusty Roads Sundaes in downtown Middlebury.
—Class Correspondents: Joan Campbell Shaw (camshaw46@comcast.net), 49 Cottage St., Manchester Center, VT 05255; Betsy Barclay Wales (betsywales@icloud.com), 78 Scott Dyer Rd., Apt. 222, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107.

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REUNION CLASS I talked with **Barbara "Bobbie" Bates Lauterwasser**, who said she had had a very different summer. She celebrated her 90th birthday but it was complicated by a fall when she tripped in the grocery store and fractured her hip. As a result she spent a good deal of time in the hospital and over a month in rehab. The hip now boasts two pins but the X-rays indicate that all is well. She has to continue in rehab and physical therapy but fortunately that is very near her home. Her son, Bruce, has been a great help to her, has spent a lot of time with her, and has driven her wherever she has had to go. Bruce retired from Raytheon early due to cancer. Bobbie is hoping he will drive her to our reunion. He has friends in the area and could stay with them while she attends the reunion. Bobbie has returned to choir

rehearsal and gotten back to normal living. Her sister and niece visited from California and her son from Colorado. • **Ginny Lee Costello** is her usual dynamo self, busy all the time. She had a good summer going to two yoga classes sponsored by the City of Boston and held in the park. One was a chair class and simple, the other a more serious class. Ginny reads a great deal and continues with her Life Learning Courses, as she has for many years. This year she is taking a course in world politics, taught by a professor from UMass. The focus is on the Balkan countries, Latvia, Estonia, Russia, etc. She likes the people with whom she studies but regrets that some of them do not live closer to her neighborhood. She has joined the Ollie Program, where she has met others who do live near her. She takes part in the Beacon Hill Village, a program started by seniors who want to "age in place." As part of the program people volunteer to do all kinds of things to help others, such as taking people shopping or actually doing the shopping for them, taking them to appointments, etc. Her book club is rereading *A Passage to India*. Ginny also took a class in Islam. Like so many of us, Ginny is deaf but she has an aid, which enables her to be connected to the speaker. It's a big help but it does not work in a group discussion. • **Beverly Beach Grant** suffers a great deal from arthritis. While one of her knees is perfect, the other is bone on bone. She would like to have it fixed but it is complicated by her age—the fact that she cannot take painkillers and so would simply have to put up with the pain, and because Medicare is not looking kindly on transplants. Fortunately, she is still able to get around with the help of some of the medical aids and also because she still drives. Beverly is active in her POE chapter. There are 67 in the group, which makes it a bit unwieldy. Most of the members are young. She is the second from oldest and is a charter member having been there since the very beginning. She doubts that she will attend the reunion as travel is so difficult. Her daughter lives quite near her though in another town and calls her every night. Her son is a professor at Purdue and calls her every Sunday but she does not see him very much. Beverly is still in her own home. There is a retirement facility near her which has everything one could want but she cannot picture herself in a two-room bedroom. So for the present she is staying put. • **Tiffany Clark Nourse** says they are doing quite well but no longer take such long walks. She wrote that the old municipal building is down and it really enhances the view and the approach to the College. • More members of our class have left this world: **Phyllis Howland McIntosh** on May 27 and **Audrey Jewell Lenk** on July 14. And when I picked up my mail today, there was a nice note from **Steeny Rolls Pepin**, which included the obituary of **Kathryn Gray Weed**, who died September 5. "Kay wore many hats during her full and busy life. She handled the accounting and homemaking side of the farm. She was a 4-H leader, a defensive-driving instructor, a member of the Extensive Service Demonstration Group, and the West Burke (Vt.) Methodist Church. She returned to teaching after her children were well into their school years, first as a home tutor and then as a full-time teacher of first through fourth grades at Newark Street School. She was a proponent of the Reading Is Fundamental program, acquiring many books for the school by gathering soup labels. After her retirement, when Newark built a new school in 1980, they established the Kathryn Weed Library." There is much more to her obituary but I quote this simply to show how much we could have enjoyed her successes and admired her civic spirit if we had known more about her earlier. Kathryn, unfortunately, was a classmate who never answered my request for news. Everyone in the class has had equally interesting sides to life and it is good to know what others have experienced. • A reminder: our 70th reunion is June 9–11. Do plan to come if at all possible.

—Class Correspondent: Jeannette Atkins Louth (wmjalouth@comcast.net), 99 Depot Road West, West Harwich, MA 02671.

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Patricia Malone Bothwell writes, "We spent a week in the Adirondacks at the end of July and had quiet, good weather so we were able to hike, though we no longer take 13-mile hikes! We worked hard in our gardens over the summer; the flowers were glorious and the vegetable garden produced more than we could eat. Too bad we couldn't share the bounty, especially the plump tomatoes, with our Midd friends." • A delightful feature of the home of **Charlie** and **Mim Wade Butts** at Ocean View in Falmouth, Maine, is that it is only a 20-minute drive from where they take a boat to Bustin's Island in Casco Bay. They were married on the island 67 years ago and still spend time there each summer. In June they had a nice visit from **Adele "Stemmie" Stemmler Taylor**, whose daughter lives nearby. If you are in Maine, stop by. • **Nat Benson Fraioli** is doing well and enjoys her garden, tennis, and yes, she is still skiing! She sees **Pat Salmon Henderson** once in a while. • **Jean Burkholder Gromoll** is a retired teacher. She recalls that her first year there were 50 students in her first grade class! She has been active in social work for TB victims. • **Edith "Skeet" Titus Harman** has been very active wherever she has lived. She and Mort '47 lived in Middlebury for 39 years and on Cape Cod. Now they live on the West Coast but every year they travel back east. They make the trip interesting by seeing new areas on each trip. Skeet is a great-grandmother. She also is a friend of the mother of Middlebury's new president and knows she will be a good president. • **Rowena "Ronnie" Brown Huber** is doing very well and loves Texas! She has four children and takes many trips and plays golf along the way. • A former teacher, **Sue McWilliams Leighton** is enjoying life in the fullest. Everything is going well for her. • **Gloria Pilini Miller** has always lived in Montpelier, Vt., and is still living in her own house. She keeps very busy and stays in close touch with her Middlebury friends. • **Jo Sherman Riebow** is happily living in Cumming, Ga., where her daughter and family live—actually on the same street! Jo is happy and is delighted with her dog, Casey, who keeps her company. • **Jean Webster Skoien** lives in Tampa, Fla., where she keeps active in many clubs and is mostly involved in her garden club. • In Beacon, N.Y., **Corinne Nagle Strianese** is just fine and enjoying life. She spends summers in Cape Cod. • **Ann Bushnell Taylor** is now living in a senior community that is very good and has many clubs for all. She is in the women's club and four book clubs, so is very active. She taught kindergarten early on. • **Marcia Jordan Walker** lives with one of her two daughters and has five grandchildren. She is in good health and happy and counts her blessings. • **Joan Spross Carr** has lived in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and for over 60 years in Canada. "We enjoyed Montreal with Expo and the Olympics. I am now back in the U.S. Arizona is a great place for retirees. Sunshine and new friends again! Thanks to Middlebury, AAUW and CFUW (Canada) gave me wonderful friends and study groups over the years." • Sadly, **Ann Clarke Curley** died on September 23. The class sends condolences to her family.

—Class Correspondent: Adele Stemmler Taylor (adelesilverfox@gmail.com), 471 Washington Rd., Woodbury, CT 06798.

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Congratulations to **Don Henderson**, who was inducted into the Middlebury Athletics Hall of Fame in November. Don is one of the top skiers in United States history. Competing in all four events (slalom, giant slalom, Nordic, and ski jumping), he captained Middlebury's 1948 National Championship team. He went on to coach skiing at the Holderness School from 1951–1969. During this time, Don's skiers represented the U.S. at the Olympics during eight consecutive games from 1956–84. In 1964, Don assisted Bob Beattie '55 with the U.S. Olympic team in Innsbruck, Austria. Six years later, he served as the head coach for the U.S. squad at the World Championships in Val Gardena, Italy. • Correspondent **Rachel Adkins Platt** reports: The other day I had a wonderful conversation with **Betty "Deanie" Dean Custer** on the telephone. We talked about our years at Midd, of course, as we were close friends in college, but also of our time as roommates in NYC after we graduated and lived in an apartment there. Deanie was a reservation agent for Eastern Airlines and I was a business office representative for the New York Telephone Co. When I first looked for a job in the city, at each interview I was asked, "Can you type and take shorthand?" I could do neither so I was delighted when the criteria for the job at the telephone company was a college degree. Deanie had come from Oakham, Mass., and me from Schenectady, N.Y., and we both enjoyed our year and a half there with lots of

laughs, learning to cook and handle our money without going into debt, and being independent. We had one roommate that walked out on us owing money for rent and loans we had made to her and commented as she walked out the door, "Too bad, that is your problem." When I called my dad, he said, "Rachel, you are learning about life." How true. Anyway, enough of the past. Deanie and her husband continue to love it at Wake Robin in Shelburne, Vt. There are many retired professors and former students who also live there. She is most enthusiastic about all the music programs that come there. She told me about the five music festivals in the summer with performers from North Carolina and Vermont, such as the Vermont Youth Orchestra made up of teenagers; children from fourth through sixth grades who play violin learning the Suzuki method in the School for Integrated Arts from Burlington; and, last but not least, the Boston Symphony. Wow, it all sounds very impressive and enjoyable. She also said that the food is incredible there and there is lots of fine dining. What could be better? • Sad news I need to relate—**Irene Ulmer Boublik** passed away on July 15. I have fond memories of her from college days and also a wonderful trip we took with Middlebury College in France together with a group of 20 on a boat out of Lyon on a canal for seven days. My deepest sympathy to Irene's family.

—Class Correspondents: Dixon Hemphill (dixonH1925@gmail.com), 10910 Olm Dr., Fairfax Station, VA 22039; Rachel Adkins Platt (rplatt27@gmail.com), 34 Tobey Brook, Pittsford, NY 14534.

50 Please write me or call me with your news! Your classmates would like to hear what you are up to.

—Class Correspondent: Virginia Orrall Albert (alan8165@outlook.com), 1451 S. Greenville Ave., Apt. 2117, Allen, TX 75002. (469-795-6310)

51 **Bill** and **Phyllis Cole Deming** again had a wonderful few days at Alumni College at Bread Loaf, which we all agree is a very special place. For her class, Phyllis had to read *War! What Is It Good For?* by Ian Morris. Prof. Amy Yuen led the class. Phyllis came away thinking, "War is good for what I want, not so good for YOU, and very difficult when the I and YOU change places. The world in some places is changing toward 'war is not the answer and work toward a compromise when the need arises.'" Bill took Toxic Trespass, led by Prof. Molly Costanza-Robinson. "The book about Toms River, N.J., got us started but the class also included discussions on cosmetics, the toxics in the North Bennington, Vt., private water supplies, Flint, Mich., agra-spraying as it affects the food supply, and much more." • **Alec** and Anne Meyer '50 **Marshall** wrote about how age has caused them to make some changes in their lives! 1—They have given up the huge garden that kept them busy all summer and now raise tomatoes, cukes, and flowers; 2—they have given up driving themselves to Florida, since their kids objected strenuously. They now fly and have cut back on what they thought they HAD to have; 3—they're doing aerobics and treadmill for strength training so they won't fall, twist, or break something. Just keep moving! They add, "At our age we are 1—treasuring old friends and fostering new ones (especially younger people); 2—continuing to volunteer in the community and church until they tell us to quit; 3—valuing every phone call and visit from children and grandchildren. They keep us going. At our age LIFE IS GREAT! We wish the same for all of you." Thank you, Alec and Anne! • **Roland Coates** has created more poetry—this time about growing old. To paraphrase the poem, he mentions that there may be aches and pains, memory problems, etc., but who cares? The answer to that is, "Lots of folks. Our kids, our friends, our grandchildren. There's lots of love holding us up, remembering us, watching out for us—loving us." Our two class "poet laureates," **Roland** and **Joan Macklaier Birkett**, have enjoyed exchanging poetry with each other. Unfortunately we can't print poems in the newsletter as they take up too many lines in the space provided. • Our published poet, **Van Parker** has a new book of poems out entitled *Letting in the Light*, which he wrote between the ages of 80 and 86. • I (**Lee**) had a nice chat with **Pat Ray Christiansen**, who is happy in her senior residence, Applewood Estates, in Freehold, N.J. She has been entertained recently watching the creation of what she calls a "playground" outside her window. It will provide a putting green, croquet court, and bocce court. Wonderful facilities to encourage activity. • We were very sorry to learn of the death of **Marshall Figgatt** in August. It was so nice to see Marshall at reunion in June and we were happy he could make it with his son. We are also sorry to report the death of **William Butler**. • We wish you all good health and happy days, and HOPEFULLY you'll be in touch with us! **Lee** and **Beth**

—Class Correspondents: Lee Webster McArthur (rlmca@verizon.net), 725 Willow St., Cranford, NJ 07016; Beth Huey Newman (bethhueynewman@gmail.com), 300 Woodhaven Dr., Apt. 2509, Hilton Head, SC 29928.

52 **REUNION CLASS** Correspondent **Jean Vaughan Varney** reports: In keeping with the current vernacular, I "reached out" to **Polly Norton Polstein**. We had a short but pleasant conversation during which she assured me she had little of interest to pass on but is totally content. She lives in North Bridgton, Maine, on a lake that she can see from her windows and especially enjoys working in her vegetable garden. Her health is good and she sees her family, consisting of two sons and five grands whenever possible. Following graduation she spent time in Europe and later married a foreign service officer, traveling with him to stations in Iran and Turkey. Having been there, done that, she has no desire to travel and keeps busy with classes held fall, winter, and spring at what is called Senior College, originated some time ago by the Univ. of Maine, in addition to swimming and walking her nine-year-old dog, her great companion, as they grow old together. **Marian Olds Precht** and family have a summer home on a nearby lake and had just returned to their Bethesda, Md., home when I spoke with Polly. • It's fun to visit with old (or should I say former) classmates as I did recently, meeting **Louise Erb Mayr** for lunch. I also spoke with **Priscilla Norman Forschler** who had attended Alumni College again and said it was a wonderful experience with interesting courses, good food, and excellent company, including **Lee McGowan Allison**, **Sally Baldwin Utiger**, and **Shirley Herrman Andrews** and husband Bill. Priscilla lives in Bozrah, Conn., has two sons, two grands, and two greats, and a daughter who lives with her. She is treasurer for her church, volunteers at the local hospital gift shop, plays bridge, and generally keeps on her toes. She worked for 25 years in the social services field for the state of Connecticut and as a result is thoroughly enjoying her pension. She keeps in touch, at least by Christmas card, with **Lois Tyson Vetare** (a freshman year roomie of mine) and **Ruth Eldridge Race**, and she recently ran across **Bob Martin** in a movie theater lobby! She's in good health and plans to join what I hope will be many of us at our 65th in June. • Correspondent **Barbara Cummiskey Villet** reports: I will admit to becoming more contemplative with time so this report, which begins with the deaths of two classmates, is also, if only anecdotally, about loss, living, and love. • **Steve Baker** was faithful to his class and his college for most of his life as was his beloved wife, Janie (Murdoch) '50. Theirs was a love story that began at Middlebury and saw him through the long cold winters of his service during the Korean War, where—coming fully to his senses in a foxhole—he decided to propose to her. They grew into that kind of oneness great marriages produce and raised an admirable family in Brattleboro, his Vermont hometown. Jane predeceased him, in 2011, after several long sessions of chemotherapy and remissions, deciding to end treatment for breast cancer when she was simply too tired to go on. Steve did not mend from the loss; his heart literally took the blow and he died on July 2. But after a mass at church crowded with friends, his service, as it should have been, became a celebration of life that somehow captured Steve's spirit. There was a loud and wonderful Dixieland band, all of Steve's favorite finger foods chosen with love by his sons, wine, beer, and spirits and, among many others, a gathering of old pals from Middlebury including Irv '53 and Ellie Hight Morris '51, **Sally Utiger**, **Chuck Ratté**, and **Bill Trask**. Bill, even then, was facing his own impending loss as his former wife and longtime friend, **Ruth (Shonyo)** died on July 26 after a long illness. Which brings me to the above-mentioned thoughts about

loss, living, and love that are so much a part of all our lives at this stage. • My first call for this catch-up went to **Mary Lou McLeod Aagaard**. Her voice on the phone was youthful, but her news was of a kind not uncommon to our experiences these days. Husband Jim has been in and out of the hospital repeatedly in the last year and caring for him has changed the shape of her life. She and Jim had a long, close but childless marriage, leaving her in a lonely situation as caregiver as he grows weaker. She has resigned from her post as the election law chair at Covenant Village of Northbrook, Ill., in order to spend most of her days with him at the hospital. She makes no complaint about this; it is the natural extension of their lasting mutual regard—which extends to his insistence that she continue without him their long-established habit of attending the opera in Chicago. She and Jim loved the experience and with Jim's wholehearted approval, she expects to attend this year as well. • My second call elicited another kind of love story—this one of love rekindled in spite of time and change. The tale comes from **Ann McAdow Jenkins** and should bring a smile to all. During senior year Ann met and dated the son of a prosperous local farm family who was then at UVM named Blake Harris. Though their bond was strong, Ann wanted to see the world and went off to France, where six months later, he followed. But Ann was not ready for marriage and their paths parted. Subsequently both married others, but in a recent letter, Ann wrote as follows: "My husband, Jim, and I moved to Delaware, Ohio, in 2008 and he died in 2009. In spring 2011 my daughter was taking her son to visit colleges and she thought I should visit some friends in the East at the same time. Then we all would go to Middlebury for two or three days. As we were leaving Middlebury, I said I would like to visit Blake's family farm adjacent to the campus on the west side (which the College now owns). There was activity in the farmhouse and I knocked on the door and said I used to date the fellow who had lived there. The students invited me in and I learned they were designing and building a solar home to enter in a national competition. Two and a half months later, Blake and his brother were passing through town and decided to stop by and look at the farm. The students were eating a picnic lunch on the lawn. When Blake said he used to live there, a student said, "Blakely Harris, there was a woman looking for you" to Blake's complete surprise! He surmised it must have been me and contacted the College for my address. With my permission the College gave him the information. Blake emailed me. We began to correspond, then talk on the phone, and then we went back and forth between Texas and Ohio. We were married December 28, 2015, with our very happy families present. We are very happy. I feel this was a true miracle and am so grateful." • Love lasts. Love rekindled. Love extended—that's my final note and it's about my own news. I have finally completed a book of my late husband's photographs with my text and with the design by our daughter Ann Villet '87. It's to be published by Princeton Architectural Press early in 2017 under the title *The Lovings: An Intimate Portrait*. It will be in bookstores while a feature film, entitled simply *Loving*, directed by Jeff Nichols, is in theaters here and abroad. It has taken 16 years of work to bring the recognition to this and the rest of his legacy as a photojournalist, which for me has been an act of love extended beyond death. • Correspondent **Chuck Ratté** reports: I'm wondering how many classmates have stayed in contact continually with a close friend or roommate since our first days at Middlebury in 1948? I, for one, was fortunate to have been assigned a young prep school graduate, **Clay Butzer**. I was a few years older and a two-year Marine Corps veteran on the GI Bill. At face value, not a match made in heaven. But we hit it off right from the beginning. We have shared a fun, friendly, congenial, and sometimes competitive friendship (I'm $5.00 down so far) for nigh on 70 years. We shared accommodations in the home of Prof. Prentice, a short walk to the campus, for the first semester. Then we moved to Starr Hall to finish our first year. We joined the same fraternity (Sigma Phi Epsilon) and shared a room in the fraternity for another year. This beginning sealed our longtime friendship. Clay is a friend to be had. He started another friendship only a few hours after our own began. He met **Barbara Eckman** while registering for freshman classes. Their friendship ended in marriage. They are the proud parents of a wonderful family that includes a great-grandchild. Can you top this? Please let me know of other friendships involving members of the Class of 1952. I think there must be many similar stories. • Check out a mini-reunion photo on page 75!

—Class Correspondents: Chuck Ratté (cr6781@gmail.com), PO Box 263, Saxtons River, VT 05154; Jean Vaughan Varney (jvarney619@gmail.com), 20540 Falcons Landing Circle, No. 4108, Potomac Falls, VA 20165; Barbara Cummiskey Villet (villetb2@gmail.com), 208 Eagleville Rd., Shushan, NY 12873.

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Anyone who has been wondering about the repeatedly promised reunion of the Parkers and the **Alan Kimbells** will be glad to know we finally met. We gave up our earlier plans of eating barbecue at the Ohio-Indiana border or finding a place for a quiet lunch in the new, expanded, and always intimidating Air Force Museum and settled instead for a pleasant lunch at a new restaurant in quaint and local Yellow Springs. We talked of many things and relived our earliest Middlebury reunion, the 10th, organized by Al. He also was apparently our first class scribe, keeping track of the Class of '53. I succeeded him while I was still teaching at Middlebury and am now on my second tour of duty. Lunch was delightful and more pleasant than trying to reminisce while tramping through an overpowering array of military hardware, however interesting. Al and wife Anne were in fine form, having just launched a grandson into Cleveland banking and heading home to supervise Indianapolis baseball, since Al is part owner. Talk about success. • And then there are the **Bill Bracketts**. Research shows that in college **Ann Austin** and **Bill Brackett** were both involved with WRMC (remember radio?) and thereby with each other. As soon as they could, they took to living together, after the usual ceremonies of the times—discharge from the Army, return from Korea, marriage, etc. They found jobs and brought forth a couple of successful sons and a trio of assuredly successful grandchildren. Bill and Ann were on the road from their summer place in Maine to their hurricane-threatened home in Sarasota, Fla., when I finally tracked them down, but the chance of getting two classmates at one swoop was not to be denied. We later found a time for a great talk, which filled in some of the details of their 50th reunion report of 2003. They told us back then how after successful careers and child raising, they wanted more and decided to solve their midlife crises by getting into mission work. What started as a brief stint in Bible study in rural southern Utah, Mormon country, morphed into something bigger. As they got to know their neighbors, they discovered people hungry for an alternative to Mormonism—lost Lutherans, Baptists of various kinds, and others. Before they knew it they had collected a cadre of "anti-Mormons" (in the words of the local Mormon leader) and found a place to meet, an abandoned firehouse (complete with a 1927 Seagraves fire truck, though Ann insists it was a 1928). When they left at the end of the year, the church was a going concern, and within two years, the congregation had moved into a newly built interdenominational church. By then Ann and Bill had moved on to the next mission, Ann into church governance and Bill to Heifer International. Their grandson's baffling Christmas request for a heifer (in his house?) was explained when they learned he wanted money to give a heifer to someone in a poor country. Touched, they gave the money and learned about the Heifer Foundation. (A single heifer can provide a poor community with milk, cream, cheese, more heifers, ultimately meat, and, don't knock it, manure for fertilizer.) This seems the kind of organization the Bracketts have been attracted to: small-scale nonprofits trying to make a difference on the international scene by "helping people help themselves." Bill and Ann have traveled widely through the Third World, helping people develop integrated programs for better food, sanitation, health, family planning, self-reliance—always seeking local solutions that can make a difference. I kept thinking of the Wizard of Oz, granting boons to Scarecrow, Lion, and Tin Man. The Tin Man belongs to the group of "good-deed doers" and gets his reward, a heart. If Bill and Ann will forgive me, they have been "good-deed doers" and are still at it. They should come to the next reunion, if they can spare the time. • A message from **Millard "Bill" Davis** said his only news is that he

now has a website set up by his daughter—what would we do without them, daughters and websites! Bill has been continuing his life as a naturalist and says his new site (millardcdavisnature.com) is filled with photos and some of the pamphlets and books he has created over the years. He seems to have found an agent for one of his most recent self-published books titled *Insects in a Landscape* (with over 250 photos). Anyone interested (or infested) should look for the book, once it is out. It's good to see that Bill has not lost his enthusiasm for our good green earth and its creatures, even the creepy crawlers. • On a more somber note, I received a call from the far past. Bill Trask '52 was not a classmate but I doubt there are few of us who did not know him or whom he did not know. He was announcing the death and approaching funeral of **Don "Crock" Beers**. Bill had stayed in touch with Don, reported his death had been peaceful and expected, and that Don had left everything in good order for his sons. For our 50th reunion book Don said the only things he was notable for were getting married and divorced and sponsoring the famous Don Beers Invitational Golf Tourney for Middlebury folk in Venice, Fla. But the golfers loved it. In recent years he had returned home to Massachusetts, settling in Scituate. The funeral was to be in his hometown of Gardner. Bill thought that I, as class correspondent, could get in touch with some of Don's football and Sig Ep buddies, hoping some could come to bid him farewell. I called Captain **Irv Morris** in Simsbury, Conn., close enough to attend and more aware than I of who should or could be notified. I hope Irv succeeded in making sure Crock's departure was well attended. • That's it for now. We're always eager to hear what you are up to. For now, we're off to see **Jan Schongar Wagner** for lunch in Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

—Class Correspondent: Bob Parker (Middman53@gmail.com), 1003 Fruitland Rd., Springfield, OH 45503.

54 Correspondent **Tom Ryan** reports: Greetings from Texas and the sunny southland! El Nino gave us a cool, really wet spring and summer. In the fall we came into beautiful weather. California weather at Texas prices! • I contacted **Barbara Knight Moffitt** and husband Ken by phone and reached them at the museum on the campus of the Colorado School of Mines in Golden. They are still both in good health and hard at it! When asked about travel plans, they mentioned Arizona next week, then Pennsylvania for a week, then five days in Hawaii, before picking up the children and grandchildren for a trip to Cape Town, South Africa, Zambia, and Namibia. Ken had already gotten his ski pass when we spoke. • **Gerry Briggs** is still in his beautiful apartment across the street from the Parc Monceau in Paris, France. When I asked about the political situation in France, he said, "Better than yours!" The French economy is up a little bit, but tourism, because of the threat of terrorism, is off about 30 percent. There is, he said, not much one can do; stay out of crowds, don't bunch up, "but you can't stop living. We will just roll with the blows." His health "could be better" but he is doing nicely with one or two trips each year to the U.S. • If anyone gets depressed and needs a little lift, let me suggest a call to Shirley and **Art Curtis**! They are living on the west coast of Florida and doing beautifully! Art says, "I creak a little bit, and I wear more Band-Aids, but other than that, I'm fine, and Shirley has some minor issues, but she is doing well." They have a 31-foot Class C RV that they have used extensively in the past few years ("airports are a real hassle now") for travel in Florida and the rest of the U.S. They park in a central location and then use a towed car for day trips out of that location. In 2014 they visited Art's old roommate, the late **Bob Prentice**, in California, and they were in Vermont last year and will be again next year. Art mentioned, in passing, that there is no longer any shortage of alligators; on a recent trip along the Tamiami Trail, he says, "There must have been 1,500 of them, sunning themselves next to the road. We prayed we didn't get a flat tire!" • **Barbara Slate Abbott** is recovering nicely from open-heart surgery she had last July to replace a valve. She and husband Jack have been in Rochester, N.Y. (and Florida) since 1958, and so are comfortably settled. They have four children and seven grandchildren, with a lot of family living nearby. • **Pete Simonson** and wife Christine are still living comfortably in Brunswick, Maine, a truly beautiful part of the country, near the Maine coast and the home of Bowdoin College. After a recent knee replacement, he says, "We are slowing down a little and taking cruises where you don't have to pack and unpack." Their daughter, Marlisa '96, is in Hartford, Conn., and was doing development work for the Univ. of Hartford and is now working in development for Middlebury. • In Houston, Emily and I are moving (for only the fourth time in 50 years) into a new high-rise retirement community. Downsizing ain't fun! • We recently lost two of our classmates: **Stan Holt** and **Peggy Cooper Heald**. I knew Stan pretty well because we sailed and had a number of classes together, and I spoke with him by phone a few years ago. He was content, enjoying his farm in Townshend, Vt., enormously. And everybody knew Peggy. She was an "upper," and with that marvelous red hair, hard to miss. We will miss them both. • **Pete Parker**'s sister, Adele Parker Rodbell '56, has news of interest to everyone within reach of the Clark Museum in Williamstown, Mass. Adele has donated her entire collection of Japanese wood-block prints to the Clark, where she has been docent for 40 years. It's a stunning show, on display until April 2. Call ahead for dates when she'll be the docent on duty. • And meanwhile, let's all keep active and stay connected!

—Class Correspondents: Julie Howard Parker (julieparkerbonjour@gmail.com), 1929 Meadowbrook Rd., Altadena, CA 91001; Tom Ryan (trn@aol.com), 3 Knipp Rd., Houston, TX 77024.

55 Correspondent **Carlene Snyder Howland** reports: **Sidney Brock Gates** and husband Caleb joined me and daughter Lori '81 at dinner at the newly opened restaurant, Sol Cocina, in Cherry Creek, Denver. It was a great evening of getting caught up on their busy active lives. They live close to the country club, where they frequent the golf course and tennis courts. As we visited, we discovered many remarkable, mutual paths in education abroad that our grandfathers and fathers had taken. Too bad their paths did not seem to cross, as they would have enjoyed knowing each other. Sid and Caleb were planning a family reunion weekend above Colorado Springs. Sid is enthusiastic about Alumni College and is looking forward to participating again. • **Priscilla Smart Weck**, in Falls Church, Va., since '76, is still using her good organizational skills. She is on the board of the local library and additionally puts together four community clean-up projects each year. She participates in two book clubs, one of which she heads up. She was looking forward to a weekend family reunion with her son's family in Claiborne, Md., on the Eastern Shore. Her 22-year-old twin granddaughters have been studying in London and Copenhagen. Priscilla also mentioned how much she and her husband have enjoyed Alumni College. • **Phyllis Armstrong** continues to live in Middlebury in the house that her parents built in 1935. After getting her law degree from Boston University, where F. Lee Bailey was her class valedictorian, she practiced law for 45 years in Middlebury. Some of it was trial work (first waterskiing accident on Lake Dunmore), and she worked with Patrick Leahy. She also served as a legislative draftsman. She handled many wills and estates. Not long ago, she tripped in her home and broke her ankle, so she spent time recovering at Porter Hospital. Now, she enjoys having some groceries delivered from Pratts Store, in Bridport, and having friends come to sit around her dining room table. She holds in highest esteem her association with Arthur Healy and his remarkable works of art; and, the caliber of her political science courses at Midd, her major, which led her into the legal profession. Her goal is to try to write a history of Sicilian immigrants, who came to Middlebury in the 1930s, some of whom were her friends as she grew up. • See the Class of 1962 column for a story about **Carolyn Edgar Goodrham**. And please do not forget to share your news with us. • Correspondent **John Baker** reports: **Alan Gould**'s career has been as a speech and language pathologist. He is past president of the Hearing Loss Assoc. of America's Southwest Connecticut chapter. Recently Alan and wife Pat, a former fourth grade teacher, presented a program about hearing impairment with third and fourth graders at the Mary Hogan Elementary School in Middlebury. They first developed the presentation "Noise Isn't Cool" in their hometown of Wilton, Conn. The essence of the talk? "Stay away from ultra-loud music! Hearing loss is happening on a more rapid

basis than ever before because of the loudness of the environment." Alan and Pat have been pioneers in establishing programs throughout their community theaters to help those with hearing loss. Our hats off to them for their efforts! (I don't think anyone who has been to a wedding reception in recent years would possibly take exception to their cause!) • Dave and Diana Parish '56 McKissock have been living in Fair Haven, N.J., since 1963 and on September 1 celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. • Ed Janeway has been living at the Valley Terrace assisted living facility near Norwich, Vt., for the past couple of years. His daughter Annie '90 arranged for a Connecticut River excursion upstream from Hanover, N.H., on his birthday last September. I got caught up with him and he is as sharp as ever. • I have been reaching out to classmates who have been "lost" for several years. I leave messages on phones that seem to be working in hopes that I'll get a response. Sometimes I do—often I don't. Many of you are easier to reach but I have had to make many phone calls. I wish that more of you would email me or call and keep me up-to-date. I dropped the ball last issue. I was appalled by the College's choice of Van Jones as Commencement speaker and I took a break. Politics shouldn't cloud my view of our alma mater but I personally thought they could have done better. On a cheerier note: I answer the query "How are you doing?" with "So far so good." Liddy and I continue to sail on Long Island Sound and hike the many trails in the town of Kent, Conn. This year the Kent Conservation Commission published *Kent Trails Hiker's Guide*. I produced the maps for all 18 trails, including a section of the Appalachian Trail that cuts through Kent. The text was written by Wendy Buehr Murphy '56. • Check out an intergenerational photo sent in by Jim Kennedy on page 67! • Let me hear from more of you and the next contribution will be longer! Best to all, John.

—Class Correspondents: John M. Baker (jmbaker@bestweb.net), 76 Spooner Hill Rd., South Kent, CT 06785; Carlene Snyder Howland (carlene55midd@juno.com).

56 Ann Case Holt writes, "Sixty years ago, Joannie MacKinnon Houghton, Sally Smith Vuillet, and I moved into a tiny house in Georgetown, D.C. The fact that it had no heat made the rent workable for three struggling Middebury graduates. We had a glorious time, complete with a dog, and when the year was over, we all left to get married. I guess that was what you were supposed to do in 1957. Looking back, I am constantly amazed at the way women's lives and my own life have changed. When Jack and I were married 25 years, I told him I was hoping to become an Episcopal priest. With only a small bit of hesitation, he agreed that was a fine idea, and our lives took a very different but quite wonderful turn. It's hard to imagine the time since then without church work, which still continues. For both of us, my 18 years as a rector was a grand time. Jack liked the parish so much he stayed there while I moved on. It's pretty special to have a partner like that. I was sorry not to be with you all on that beautiful Reunion Weekend. We seem to be at the stage when our children are old enough to have their own health problems, and we didn't want to leave our daughter as she dealt with cancer. It was the right choice. Happily, she is doing beautifully, almost done with her treatment, and eager to move on with life. We move on with our lives, too. We're realistic enough to realize that our futures are now limited. I guess getting older is learning to live comfortably with that uncertainty, hoping that the coping skills we've honed in the past will serve us well, whatever lies ahead. For now, good health and continuing adventures are in order. For this, we give humble and hearty thanks! Good wishes to my fellow '56ers. Thanks to Judy Phinney Stearns and Dick Powell for their beautiful service in keeping us connected, and to Lucy and Stan, for continuing their good work." • Ron Lawson writes, "I regret not having been able to be at reunion. My inability to walk freely outdoors has limited my ability to get around. I'm still able to drive, but a lot of walking is not on my agenda. I talked with Jerry Ocorr on the phone. He's doing fine in New Bern, N.C. I'm planning future trips to visit military friends in Idaho and in San Antonio, mostly people stationed in Berlin at the time of the fall of the wall. I'm thinking about my 50th anniversary of priestly ordination, which will be in 2020, the 400th anniversary of my ancestors' (at least three of them) arrival in Plymouth, Mass., on the *Mayflower*. I want to host a party for not only friends but the local parish members (who remember me) since I was ordained in the local church, St. Augustine's. I'm still active in the Army group ACICV (Army Counterintelligence Corps Veterans). We meet annually, often in Washington, but this year we're going to Richmond, Va. We have a great time. Many in the group are 10 years older than we are! (And most can dance up a storm!) I have completed 4,500 Requiem Masses for military members who had died in battle. Two of my cousins have reached 100. No dementia. Wow!" • We were very sorry to learn of Vic "Chico" Harned's death in June 2015 from his wife, Molly, who reported the sad news. She writes, "He often reminisced about his great years at Middlebury and never understood how he got admitted in the first place! I always enjoyed his Middlebury stories about people, places, frat parties, and mostly antics." She wondered how he got his nickname, but none of his surviving Theta Chi brothers had the answer. But what everyone did recall was how much fun it was to be in his presence. Kip Cheney writes, "After an evening of a few beverages, Chico and I were in the car and spotted a skunk. Chico announced that he heard the theory that if you grab a skunk by the tail it won't spray you. We stopped the car and took pursuit. Never reached the skunk but he reached us. We had to throw our clothes away." Kathy Platt Potier '57, Ron Potier's wife, writes, "I have a vivid memory of trips back and forth to Middlebury and to our home in Allentown, Pa., with Vic at the wheel of his big '50s boat. My mother would have been horrified had she known how many beer stops we made. Vic knew all the bars along the way. The miracle is that we never had an incident that I remember. How times have changed!" For all of us who knew Vic, we remember him as a good friend who had a passion for life. His obituary appears in the back of the magazine. • Sadly, we have to report the deaths of two more classmates: Pen Reed on July 8 and Tom Hart on August 16. Our condolences to their families and friends. • Please help us to stay in touch and spread the news.

—Class Correspondents: Stan Hayward (sandphayward@yahoo.com), 1911 Wildflower Circle, Medford, OR 97504; Lucy Boyd Littlefield (ljblsquam@aol.com), 15 Norwood Heights, Gloucester, MA 01930.

57 **REUNION CLASS** Hugh Marlow received a postcard from Bo Wakefield, who was off on another adventure in Western Australia. They were headed inland to the Goldfields and Kambalda, Kalgoorlie, and Coolgardie. Arid country, it holds huge mines of gold, nickel, sulfide, tin, and zinc. (He suggests you Google Kalgoorlie Super Pit.) And in Esperance are the world's finest white-white granite sand beaches. The area is exactly where Australia pushed off from Antarctica millions of years ago to create the great Southern Ocean. And there are hundreds of islands ruled by seal colonies. Bo continues to send updates so more details will be in the spring issue! • Sabra Harwood Field has illustrated a children's book written by fellow alum, Julia Alvarez '71. Titled *Where Do They Go?,* the book deals with the emotional side of death in the form of a poem with Sabra's woodblock illustrations adding a beautiful component. Hugh Marlow saw Sabra at Edgewater Gallery in Middlebury, where the book was being launched in November. • Hugh had news about other classmates, as well. In July he and wife Barbara stayed with Peter Decker and wife Deedee at their gorgeous ranch in Ridgway, Colo. He also spoke on the phone with Jerry Gaylord, Bill Badger, and Sam Boynton. He's hoping they can get together and compare lies and talk about reunion. And he was delighted to chat with Bob Telfer and wife Kay. Hugh was hoping to see classmates at the Midd holiday celebrations in Shelburne, Vt., and Boston. He was possibly going to make it to NYC as well. • I (Rick) received this note from Pat Timpson Zimmerman: "Husband Bob and I have been cleaning out our attic in preparation for selling our house of 45 years sometime in the future. You cannot imagine what we found up there, including 10 issues of the *Campus* dated 1953 and 1954. They are old and yellowed but still readable. They must have been saved by my parents because one is marked 'Pat, Dean's List' in my mother's handwriting. (Definitely

worth noting—probably never did that again.) I also found a copy of the 78 rpm recording of Middlebury songs sung by the women of the Class of 1957. Frankly, I do not remember making this recording, but it says on the cover that it was directed by **Patricia Judah**, class song leader, and the cover was designed by **Sabra Harwood**." She offered to mail them to me so we could have them at reunion, so I said yes but told her it would be better if she brought them!

—Class Correspondent: Rick Raskopf (rickraskopf@gmail.com), 552 Caddie Ct., Oxford, CT 06478.

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Pete Bostwick gives us a summary of his incredible sports feats at Middlebury, the outstanding coaches who guided him, friends who inspired him, and his present athletic endeavors: "In spite of four hip operations over the last 30 years, I have been able to play 80-and-over father and son tennis doubles with my son, Pete Bostwick III '78, who had both of his hips replaced at the age of 46. This past February, Pete won the 55 National Doubles Squash Championship with Patrick Miller, and Pete and I were ranked sixth nationally in father-son tennis. I was also ranked number three in 80-and-over father-daughter tennis with my youngest daughter, Janet, who lives and works in Sun Valley, Idaho. As for my four years at Middlebury, I thank the late Fred Neuberger '50 for accepting me to the College, where I was able to get an excellent education and have an unbelievable athletic experience. Looking back, it's mind-boggling to me that I was able to win the college golf and tennis championships all four years; to play number one on the tennis team for all four years; varsity hockey for four years, the last two on the first line with Mike Karin '59 and **Kenny Kouri**, and then to win the New England Intercollegiate Golf Championship my senior year while captain of the tennis team. What fun to play hockey and golf for Duke Nelson '32, one of Middlebury's greatest all-around athletes and coaches! Also, to room next to Spike Heminway '55, who became a lifelong friend, and Bob Beattie '55, who played on the tennis team and skied for Middlebury, after which he put U.S. skiing on the map. They also showed me where the Pine Room was, not a good thing when you are trying to stay in college. Then, to top it off, to win the Blue Key Award as a freshman and the John P. Stabile Memorial Trophy as a senior, making my four years at Middlebury an unbelievable experience." • Some wonderful memories came from **Ellen Pennypacker Cutts**: "A few things have come to mind about my Middlebury experience, beginning with our freshman class welcome ceremony. I can still hear the seniors tap-tap-tapping with their Gamaliel Painter canes, and I had the thought that getting to be seniors like them was eons in the future. After getting settled with our roommates, we in Battell North were herded into a room where we were given the fire-drill routine—towels required and shoes on our feet. Two years later, as a junior counselor, I had to follow through. This time it was lunch hour, everybody else was at lunch, and I heard someone call in an alarmed voice from Batt Center, 'Is anybody here?' I responded and she said, 'There's a fire in room such-and-such. You grab the fire extinguisher and I'll go call in the alarm.' I grabbed the nearest extinguisher (the BIG one) and headed toward the smoke, pulled the handle, and instinct said 'sweep it under the bed,' which I did, managing to stop the fire before it grew. My friend from Center returned and together we tossed the burned mattress out the window before we even heard the sound of the sirens. Happy ending to that story. Freshman year brought those 8 a.m. lecture classes, when many of us slept and the rest took notes. Sophomore year for me was in the Chat, fourth floor, where we could escape speaking French all the time. One of us had a unicycle, which we rode back and forth in the hall until we heard Mlle. Bineau (Beanie) coming up the stairs. My room was in the front, and it was ages before I no longer heard the continual clank-clank of the metal flag-clasp banging against the metal flagpole all night. Funny, what things stick in our heads after years gone by. As an arts major, I and others had 8 a.m. classes in the dark, literally, as we were shown slides through a projector of many art/architecture masterpieces. I managed to knit a sweater or two in between viewing the slides, admittedly having to rip out a row or two afterwards to correct the mistakes. One good thing, though, was that I was able to evade the no-cuts-before-vacation rule by getting permission to go to Boston (near home) to write my papers while working from the originals rather than textbook copies. That was a real privilege and made the work much more valuable and satisfying. Geology turned out to be interesting, aided by field trips to various local outcroppings and the nearby marble mine. I never pass a fresh cut in road-construction without thinking about how all those layers of rock were made and what they might be made of. Memories of Middlebury's beautiful fall surroundings are many, centered around Chipman Hill on the east and the Adirondacks on the west. Bicycling around the area was a delight, like being in a wonderland of color. Two poignant memories are having Robert Frost wander into the library and seat himself a few chairs away to sit and sift his thoughts and also to have him read his poetry to a group of us in the living room of Forest East. What a privilege! Another special occasion was to sing one Sunday in the chapel choir while director Jean Berger played the organ and presented to the world his original setting of the 100th Psalm. Nobody had ever heard it before, including him, except as he had composed it in his head. Together we brought his music to life."

—Class Correspondents: Elaine Humme (elainehumme@yahoo.com), 315 N. Providence Rd., Wallingford, PA 19086; Mary Daniels Jones (mjones1@ec.rr.com), 4011 Norseman Loop, Unit 1, Southport, NC 28461.

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Andy Montgomery and wife Joy spent the last weekend of June on Cape Cod for Joy's family reunion. Andy spent time with **Bill Hussey**, our first confirmed attendee for our 60th reunion, and met with **Nancy Frame Sveden**, who confirmed she would co-chair our 60th. Nancy reports, "Our pastor decided that I should host a Brewster Whitecaps player (Cape Cod college summer baseball league, best in the U.S.!) this past summer, with his roommate, so I agreed. What a sweetheart this young man was. I learned much (went to about 30 games!). After 46 years in the wondrous field of education, I am finally retiring from the Nauset school system. On to the next exciting life season!" • **Richard Hofmann** attended summer language school at Middlebury, during a one-week refresher course for alumni, residing in Gifford where he had lived in his senior year. He felt he was in a time warp! • Bea and **Bob Luce** attended the 41st Alumni College at Bread Loaf in August. They took the course War: What Is It Good For? taught by a "delightful" young associate professor of political science, Amy Yuen. Other classmates attending were **Eleanor Bliss**, **Dick Conrad**, **Carolyn Parks Behr**, **Millicent Fairhurst**, and **Anne Goebel Barkman**. Bea and Bob subsequently toured Montreal, Ottawa, and Kingston, then enjoyed fishing and hiking at Moosehead Lake, Maine, before attending Gideons International Convention in Indianapolis. • **Pam Payne Lewis** writes, "Gordon and I are doing well. Gordon was diagnosed with early stage Alzheimer's almost a year ago, and, so far, his symptoms are minimal. His sense of humor is very much intact (one of the best anti-aging agents I know)." Pam's bone cancer is responding to treatment; she is singing and considering a couple of long-term projects. Son Peter has been honored for his work as a clinical psychologist and son Kevin's cooperative health insurance company in Maine has grown from a staff of 32 to a staff of over 100 employees. • Remembering **Aliceanne Britain Griffin**, who died last June, **Dorrie Landry Kehoe** writes, "It is with great sadness that I write of Alice. She was a leader at Middlebury and in the business world, where she was one of the first women in the country to start her own successful pension service company. She was a loyal and loving friend, determined to live life to the fullest in spite of cancer. When it was clear that cancer was winning she—on her own—checked herself into a hospice facility. Alice was unique." • **Ren Curry** vacationed in Iceland with wife Nancy Knudegard and two other couples. They stayed in a fishing lodge near Húsavík, where fishing, whale watching, and riding horseback were primary activities. A highlight was watching the football (soccer) match, Iceland beating England. They hiked on Súdavík and bird-watched on Vigur Island; then on to the offshore Westman Islands where one-third of the town was obliterated by a volcanic eruption in 1972. He states that Iceland appears to be above the tree line and, no matter how many bedrooms a

home has, there is only *one* bathroom. • Summer meant Saratoga for **Paul Schosberg**; at the yearling sales he and Jane assessed some of the best prospects, evaluating their sires, and they spent time at the nation's most historic race track "occasionally pushing a few bucks through the machines." Paul's son has been a trainer at Saratoga since 1988 and enlisted Dad's help with feeding the stable residents. They spent time at their daughter's lake home, visiting some wineries and breweries, and teasing some local small-mouth bass. • Bill '58 and **Noelle Caseley Locke** have moved to a retirement community and thus have a new address: 303 Linden Ponds Way, Apt 524, Hingham, MA 02043. • **Avery Tillinghast** finished his 61st year of sailing competition at Alexander's Lake in Dayville, Conn. "Our crew's best efforts were in the International 110 Class." Avery continued to dominate the Sunfish Class. (Andy comments, "How the hell does he do that? Most of us 55 years out of college would probably sink the Sunfish!") • We are saddened to report that **Connie Crabbe Dehlendorf**'s husband of 58 years, Mike '58, died on August 16. • **Martha Gerhart** reports, "Between July 1 and September 1 I retired from SMU and my vocal coaching career, packed up my condo, tripped over a curb and fractured my pelvis, spent several weeks in the hospital and rehab, sold my condo, and settled into a small but very pleasant assisted living apartment at the C. C. Young Senior Retirement Community. My new address is 4847 W. Lawther Dr., Apt. 221, Dallas, TX 75214." • **Mary Charles Hubbard Blakebrough** writes, "Tapping gently (EFT: Emotional Freedom Techniques) on the same meridian points used in acupuncture helps relieve stress. This year I went to Reno, Seattle, and Myrtle Beach for different classes in EFT/Tapping. My Rotary Club is Raleigh Midtown, a young three-year-old club, mostly young members. Service projects: local, U.S., Africa. I'm in Durham, N.C.: mcbreakthrough@mindspring.com." • In the fall **Dean Beyer** reported that drinking water was finally available in Sacramento but forest fires were still prevalent. Then it was "organ recital" time for him, a laminectomy for which rehab requires no bending, lifting, or twisting. He says Manhattans are a major part of rehab. He had recently spoken with Doty and **Russ Miller** but avoided any comments on the political scene. Friendship was more important! • In the Sarasota-Bradenton, Fla., area in late February 2017, **Anne Martin Hartmann** and **Andy Montgomery** will cohost a Midd mini-reunion. If you're interested in details, contact Anne or Andy.

—Class Correspondents: Lucy Paine Kezar (lucypainekezar@myfairpoint.net), 134 Main St., Kingston, NH 03848; Andy Montgomery (joyandym@aol.com), 8910 Hilloway Rd., Eden Prairie, MN 55347.

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A column of sad news. **Philip Tangeman** died on June 27. He was on the football team and a member of DKE. **Breck Lardner** was his freshman year roommate in Painter and **Charlie Rand** lived across the hall. • **Charles Hadley** died on July 3. He graduated with our class after doing a stint in the service. He contributed to both our 25th and 50th reunion yearbooks. After a career with GMAC, he kept reinventing himself; he owned a firearms company and picked up an MBA. Charlie was a business economics major, played intramurals, and was a member of the Mountain Club, Flying Panthers, and KDR. • **Nicholas Gorham** died on July 23. Nick was a business economics major, played intramural sports, was a member of M.U.A. and Mountain Club, worked on Community Chest and Junior Weekend, and was senior year VP of DKE. Nick, sculptor **John Pindyck Miller**, and **Vcevy Strekalovsky** were roommates freshman year in Hepburn Hall and **Nancy Phillips** is his cousin. • **Elinor Budelier** died on August 2. She was a German major, a member of both the German and Russian Clubs, and spent her junior year in Germany. Nonie was active in the Christian Assoc., Mountain Club, Women's Forum, and Young Republicans Club, and worked on the Culture Conference. • **Jan Otto** died on September 7. **Nancy Mumford Mulvey** provided the following: "Jan became ill with pancreatic cancer last December. Jan's widow, Joanne Brown Marlatt, is my late husband Don's first cousin and we attended their wedding. They had been grade school classmates in Ithaca, N.Y. He moved away and then they met again freshman year at Cornell. He transferred to Middlebury. He tracked Joanne down many years later, after they both were divorced, and they married and had 18 years together." Jan was a physics major. • The news you sent with your holiday cards will appear in the next class column.

—Class Correspondents: Jean Seeler-Gifford (jeandave@mindspring.com), 100 Eastview Terrace, Apt. 240, Middlebury, VT 05753; Vcevy Strekalovsky (vcevy@strekalovskyarchitecture.com), 47 Fearing Rd., Hingham, MA 02043; Lois Boon Hill (loehill), 267 Old Stockbridge Rd., Lenox, MA 01240.

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Rod Falby and wife Ann are both retired, but that doesn't mean they've slowed down. They still love downhill skiing at Sunapee and Okemo and Rod is running daily. They had two new grandchildren last year bringing the total to seven. • **John Williams** spent most of last year coping with complications from hip surgery. We are also sad to report that John's wife Arleen died last March after a lengthy illness. • Help me keep my job as class correspondent and send some news!

—Class Correspondent: Janet S. Reed (jsreed2800@me.com), 929 W. Foster Ave., # 2620, Chicago, IL 60640.

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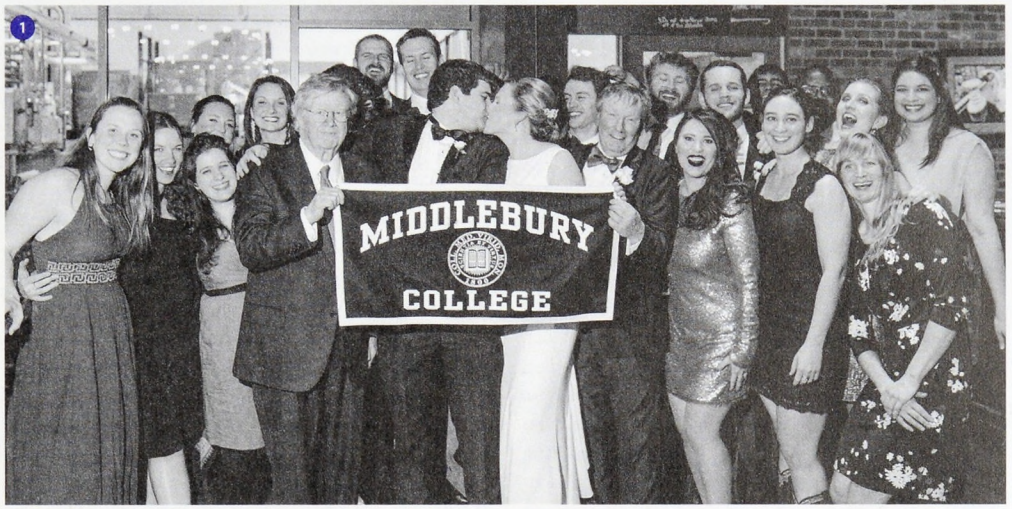
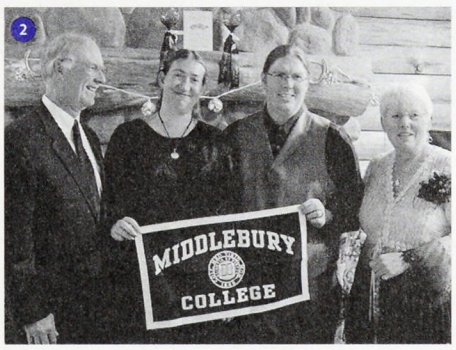
REUNION CLASS Congratulations to **Gordi Eaton**, who was inducted into Midd's Athletics Hall of Fame in November! Here is what his bio said: "Gordi Eaton officially graduated in 1965 after his academic career was interrupted three times while he represented the United States at the Olympic Games and World Championships. Eaton was second among U.S. finishers at the 1960 Olympics in Squaw Valley, finishing 17th overall. Upon his return to Middlebury, he won the NCAA downhill championship in 1961. He qualified for both the 1962 World Championships and the 1964 Olympics in Innsbruck, Austria, but was unable to compete due to an injury." • **Kathy McKinley Harris** writes, "The Otter Creek Poets group was asked by President Laurie Patton to attend Bloom Day at the president's house on June 16. Her husband celebrates the day with a party annually. Not all the poetry group attended and only three of our group read something from James Joyce. It was a balmy June evening. We of the poetry group parked at the Ilsley Library and walked to the president's house. Most of the other attendees were Middlebury faculty. It was a delightful evening." • **Bonnie Bonnaviat** writes, "I moved to Florida a couple of years ago to escape the awful weather of North Yorkshire. I enjoyed over 20 happy years there but was glad to say adieu to its dark and rainy weather. Both body and soul are now enjoying the therapeutic effects of Florida's sunshine and warmth. I've recently updated the serviceable but tired furnishings left by the previous owners. I usually hate shopping; however, a longtime friend from here with virtually the same decorating eye has served as my shopping mentor, making the whole process almost fun and exciting. It's finally nice to relax, enjoy the area, and allow my squealing piggy bank to recuperate as well. Familiar faces are always welcome to give a call to 941-896-6055 if you're passing through the Bradenton area." • In September I (**Judy**) joined a British tour to Palermo for an architecture and wine tasting tour of Sicily. There were 28 of us, including three leaders—mostly British but including four Americans, two of whom have been living in England since college graduation. On the second day, as we stood around waiting for a vineyard lunch to begin, I was talking to a woman about political correctness, both of us disgruntled with what is going on currently in many universities. She happened to mention her own alma mater, Middlebury! She was in the Class of 1955, name then Carolyn Edgar, now Carolyn Goodrham, and she's been living in London for decades with a stint also in Italy. I had wondered why she looked vaguely familiar and been racking my brain to figure out who she might look like. With the Midd connection, though, we discovered we'd actually been in the same class at Alumni College at Bread Loaf two years ago! What a coincidence to bump into a Bread Loaf classmate in Sicily! And what a relief not to have to continue taxing my brain in an attempt to figure out why she looked familiar to me.

—Class Correspondents: Judy Bosworth Roësset (jbozroesset@aol.com), 8809 Mariscal Canyon Dr., Austin, TX 78759; Liza Dunphy Fischer (betsy@brentopalmer.com),

611 Oakland Ave., Iowa City, IA 52240; John Sinclair, 482 Woodbury Rd., Springfield, VT 05156.

63 We are saddened to open with the recent death of Dr. **Patricia Gay** (Salt Lake City) in August. However, it is fitting to include these comments from **Ben Greene** (West Palm Beach, Fla.) and wife Colleen. "Both academically and in so many other ways, Pat's friendship, encouragement, and guidance made all the difference. We would not have had the success and joy we've been able to experience if it were not for Pat. Ben met her in 1959 as a classmate, and then knew her as a fellow psychology major, where she was always supportive and encouraging—not just academically, but in other ways as well. Following graduation from college, as happens so often, we were not in touch. But then we reconnected in later years. During one of the reunions at Middlebury, Pat was relating a story of meeting someone outside her academic sphere while working on her master's degree. Pat appeared for their first dinner date with laboratory material (which shall remain unidentified here) in her hair. The date asked Pat what it was, and of course she told him. Pat told us, "Well, I never saw HIM again!" A humorous story, and it was particularly appealing to Colleen, who found in Pat a fellow psychologist of her own persuasion; the two would engage in exciting (to them) discussions of physiological psychology. Pat was Colleen's mentor when Colleen was working on her doctoral dissertation, and Colleen dedicated the dissertation to her. Pat Gay played an extraordinary and influential role in our lives. She was our friend, and we will miss her beyond words." • **Bob Clarke** (Longmeadow, Mass.) was recently re-elected as a trustee of Western New England Univ., thus gaining the additional secretarial duty of signing all diplomas issued. He and wife Holly in the past year have traveled extensively in Asia and Europe, and feel fortunate to have three grandchildren living nearby. • **Jim Cole** (Littleton, Colo.) has seen **Larry Ring**, **Bill Delahunt**, and **Craig Stewart** numerous times. His wife continues to serve on the Littleton City Council. Jim has been teaching political science courses at the Metropolitan Univ. of Denver since 1974. • **Liam English** (Cornwall, Vt.) and wife Judy enjoyed cruising Lake Champlain this past summer, even venturing up Otter Creek as far as Vergennes. These ventures have caused them to investigate further some of the lake's past history. Judy, with **Sue Handy Burdick**, is a lister (or assessor) for the town of Cornwall. If you are or will become a fan of FaceBook, check out Liam's site. You will find interesting material which may very well promote further discussions. • In October **Carol "Cookie" Keyes Ferrentino** (Potomac, Md.) attended the 80th reunion of the Ice Follies in Chicago. She continues to skate regularly despite some health issues and is very thankful her children live nearby. • **Wallace Lucas** (Chester, N.J.) visits Middlebury at least three times a year, re-





1 Liza Townsend '08 and Matt Mone '09 were married in Boston, Mass., on January 17, 2016. Middlebury friends celebrated with the couple at the Harpoon Brewery: Sarah Boylan '13, Kristen Kling Daisey '06, Mimi Micner '10, Michael Mone '64, the newlyweds, Steve Townsend '75, Nicole MacMillan '09, Jessica Weiss '08, Colleen Sullivan '07, Sarah Calvert Lartey '08, Louisa Sethi '10, (second row) Mary Gerrie '03, Flannery (Murphy) Geier '07, Mwaki Magotswi '11, Christopher Geier '06, Brian Swenson '10, Jason Jude '08 (hidden), Ben de Leiris '09, Timothy Bagley '04, Alex Glaser '09, Mike Murali '09, and Leslie Lartey '05. 2 On October 24, 2015, Nicholas Kuckel '01 married Heather Drysdale (Mt. Holyoke '12) at the Rose and Goat Retreat in the Berkshires, Mass. His parents, George '72 and Pinny Bristol Kuckel '75, were among the small group of friends and family who attended. 3 Middlebury friends celebrated the bridal shower of Ashley Elpern '02 in Manchester, Mass.: (all '02 unless noted) Alison Hertel Reuter, Jessica Monroe Vaughan, Ashley, Lisa McAndrews, Carolyn Hely '99, and Caitlin Corey Drechsler.

4 In intergenerational action, two Midd grads stand on top of Tucker Mountain in Colorado and prepare to ski down a couloir: Jim Kennedy '55 and Nathan Beningson '18. 5 Friends from the Class of 1964 met up in Scottsdale, Ariz., for a mini-reunion at Chuck Larsen's house in the Boulders: Chuck, Fred Strife, and Bob Skiff. 6 Friends from the Class of 1998 spent a long weekend in Miami to celebrate their "Midd Life Crisis": Sarah Peterson, Megan Sowards Newton, Libby Erwin Lauze, Torri Ross, Rebecca Perron, and Amy Johnson Koehler.

membering the huge impact his student experiences were for his success. He describes the College as being a "spot for ideas," wherein growth takes place due to collaboration of faculty, staff, and students to massage original thoughts, germinating progress both within and outside the College. Noting there is always room for risk taking. He recalls during one of his years at the College that he lost a scholarship due to poor grades, but another source came forward, encouraging him to buckle down and move forward. I (**Chris**) encouraged Wally to share his observations with college administrators. • **Jim McKeown** (West Lebanon, N.H.) maintains contact with **Larry Ring**, **Bill Delahunt**, **Craig Stewart**, **Bruce Bailey**, and **Larry Noyes**. In the course of conversation, Jim revealed that he and his wife are contemplating a move to Colorado. • **Roger Ralph** (Stevensville, Md.) and wife Elaine were in Seattle this past August and had a delightful dinner with **Craig Stewart** and **Bruce Bailey**, overlooking Lake Washington. Roger has retired from the health club endeavors but remains an active volunteer for the Boys and Girls Club and the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation. • **Larry Ring** (Tucson, Ariz.) spent the summer in Cambridge, Mass., renting **Charles MacCormack**'s apartment. While there, he schmoozed with **John Angier** and **Bill Delahunt**. • **Meg Holmes Robbins** (Hingham, Mass.) has several times "reunioned" with **Lyn Wilkins Green**, **Jane Bachelder Johnson**, and **Cathy Deutsch Sands**. Meg continues to spend much energy supporting the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and conducts tours of the 1686 Quincy Homestead. • **Susan Shaw Schneski** (Williamstown, Mass.) continues to enjoy fine health and sees **Richard Schlesinger** (who operated the Zamboni at hockey games) regularly. Richard is very active in the Williamstown Conservation Commission. Sue and her husband and grown sons spend much vacation time at their family camp on Babcock Lake near Grafton, N.Y. • **Sabin Streeter** (Chappaqua, N.Y.) is recovering well from his stroke of April 2015, thanks to a vigorous exercise regime. Last June Sabin was at Fenway Park with **Jim Woods** (Pittsford, N.Y.) and someone (?) arranged to have Sabin's name appear on the scoreboard! On June 11 Sabin also attended a memorial service for **Mark Cangiano** in Andover, N.H., attended by more than 50 family and friends. Sabin recalls the following classmates in attendance: **Jack Kytle**, **John Angier**, and **Bill Delahunt**. • **John Weekes** (Buhl, Idaho) has retired from professional golf although he still plays. He has basically seen fit to stay pretty close to home since 1972. He's had some health issues recently, but they seem to be attended to well. He expresses concern about the power the media exerts, bringing issues to the forefront without sufficient forethought. • **Steve Wilkerson** (Hanover, N.H.) sees **Charles Buell** and **Dave Taylor** and their wives quite regularly. Steve and wife Kathy recently attended the unveiling of the Standing Lincoln Statue by Gaudens near Cornish, N.H. They were accompanied by **Chuck** and **Sue Burdick**. Like many of us, Steve has experienced some semi-limiting health issues, but charges on. Their children live not far away: Norwich, Vt., and Portland and Bethel, Maine. • Informal mini-reunions seem to be gaining favor. Perhaps from these, a nexus will emerge to take on planning for our 55th reunion coming up in 2018. Please continue these reconnections, and we encourage you to share these gatherings with correspondents Jan and Chris. We need fodder and, as landlines diminish, it is becoming more difficult to gather information. We need your input.

—Class Correspondents: Janet Brevoort Allen-Spencer (janallenspencer@gmail.com), 2 Arizona Pl., Huntington Station, NY 11746; Christopher J. White (crnbrycst@gmail.com), 347 Duck Cove Rd., Bucksport, ME 04416.

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Correspondent **Bob Baskin** reports: In the last issue we discussed the escapades of the Three Amigos, **Bob Skiff**, **Fred Strife**, and **Chuck Larsen**. (To see a photo, check page 67.) We talked about some of Fred's history, but now it's time to delve into Chuck's. I had the chance to talk with Chuck recently by phone from his home in Canada. As was reported earlier, Chuck, Fred, and Bob did get together, with their spouses, at Chuck's American home in Scottsdale, Ariz., for rounds of golf and stories of Midd. Chuck said it happened as a result of a conversation at our reunion when Fred invited everyone to go skiing in Vail. Feeling the pressure, Chuck knew he must reciprocate by bringing all to Scottsdale. Is it now Mr. Skiff's turn? We'll have to see. Chuck does consider Canada his principal residence, where he has lived since 1976, but he spends about four months each year in Arizona, where he actually even joined a country club for the first time. He describes himself as semi-retired. Workwise, he is part of a holding company that oversees three firms—a distribution company that sells various kinds of barrier packaging films (if you are like me and have no idea what that is, think of the silver layer in potato chip bags and coffee pouches); a manufacturing entity that produces plastic films and insulation; and a machinery company. He sounds content when describing the kicks he gets coaching the young folks running these organizations. In another vein, Chuck showed his pride in his two daughters, one of whom is a Midd Kid and a professor at the Univ. of Maine. His other daughter graduated from Dartmouth and is a veterinary pathologist in Toronto. Chuck's recent travels include Australia, Germany, London, Prince Edward Island, and Argentina. Good to have the time to see the world. • Correspondent **Dori Ells Jurgenson** reports: When I ask for news, people often respond by saying "well, nothing really interesting here" and then send something that sounds much more exotic than anything I am doing! Here's the latest sample: **Faith Post Weldon** spent two weeks exploring Ireland. "As an artist, my second career, I fill 'down' moments on a trip by working on a travel journal in watercolor and recording the events and sites of each day. The journals have provided the most wonderful, personal memoirs of the many trips we have taken these last few years. I make copies available to the other travelers as well, once the trip is over and I have had the time to finish the journal." Great way to record a trip to such a beautiful place! • **Louise Gulick Van Winkle** also continues to travel. "Davis '63 and I had a good summer in Maine at Camp Wohelo—great weather for being on Sebago Lake. As of this writing, we're looking forward to our annual fall hike in the White Mountains with **Perry** and **Susie Easton Hanson** and Charlie MacCormack '63 and wife Susan Ross. Then a trip to Namibia (to further our geography education) and the winter in Arizona." • **Pam Nottage Mueller** reports, "One of the most fun/rewarding returns to Midd for me over the past 50-odd years has been our summer attendance at the Middlebury Alumni College, held at Bread Loaf each year in late August. This was the second year as students for Bill '65 and me, and we are hooked enough to call ourselves groupies! This year I took a course on the Underground Railroad, driven in part by the fact that we were promised a field trip to the Abernethy Room to look at—and touch—actual artifacts from the era. I told my professor that for whatever reason this Am. lit. major had never set foot in this hallowed place during her undergraduate years, something our hands-on American studies prof couldn't quite believe. Better late than never. In addition to scintillating class discussions, Alumni College offers comfy Bread Loaf accommodations, abundant and delicious Midd cuisine, thought-provoking evening programs, and countless opportunities to rub shoulders with eight decades of Midd Kids. It's a great weekend—plan to join us next August!" • Sandra and **Bob Seeley** visited Suzy and **Randy McNamara** in San Francisco. Bob says, "We had much to catch up on since the days of McNamara's Band." • It was good to hear from **Judy Powers Malloy**, who writes from New Jersey: "I'm enjoying small adventures along the rivers and creeks of the beautiful Princeton countryside; nothing as exciting as the adventures of my classmates. But perhaps my recent life is like small adventures in the Middlebury countryside, in between writing term papers. (After many all-nighters, my MIT Press book, *Social Media Archeology and Poetics*, rolled off the press in August.) This fall I was a digital fellow at the Rutgers Camden Digital Studies Center and enjoyed doing some research. My students were interesting. My book was the textbook for my class." • An update also comes from **Roger Simon**: "I'm directing/teaching at my Simon Studio for actors, writers, and directors—now in its 38th year in NYC. I was awarded the Smart Family Foundation grant for lifetime achievement in 2016. I'm playing lots of senior softball and producing a film/TV documentary called *The Boys of Late Summer!* about my fellow senior 'boys' (ages 60–86) who still

play ball. Directing wife Sarah Levine Simon and Mihai Grunfeld's *The Dressmaker's Secret*, is off-Broadway in February at 59E59 Theaters and featured in son Dan Simon's new film *Lonely Boys*." • **Molly Buffum Turlish** says, "I am now part of a group of women in Boston, who are funding and fundraising for Democratic Senate candidates around the country. The group, called Invest to Elect, has become a 'must' on the political fundraising circuit for progressive Democratic candidates for the Senate. We are now focusing on the 2018 cycle: lots of great challengers seeking to replace Republicans in the U.S. Senate. I first connected with the group through my involvement with Senators Elizabeth Warren and Kirsten Gillibrand and reaching out around the country has been fun. After a long and rewarding career raising funds for nonprofits, I'm enjoying focusing on politics and the levers of change that politics and government represent." • **Tom Koch** says hello, not much news, just that it was a good year for weeds in the garden.

—Class Correspondents: Bob Baskin (robertbaskin@msn.com), 34 Otter Trail, Westport, CT 06880; Dori Ells Jurgenson (dorothea.jurgenson@uni.edu), 106 Orchard Circle, Denver, IA 50622.

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Fred Noseworthy lives only a few hours from his grandkids in Carmel and Santa Cruz, Calif. "I'm blessed to live in the Sierra foothills. Aside from my kids and my (Army) Ranger tab, I'm most proud to have played a role in bringing Middlebury and the Monterey Institute of International Studies together. MIIS, at that time on the brink of disappearing, is now a key part of the Midd family. This marriage will play a big role in bringing about world peace. Mark my words. After the introduction was made, many have played key roles in its early and continued success." • **Diane Takamune Anderson** helps with major fundraising events for Aloha Medical Mission, volunteers at the Hawaii Foodbank, and helps at the local public high school, assisting seniors in preparing their college application essays. "I spent three weeks last March in Vietnam, coaching students for their English examinations, and I wrote a children's book—about a toy dog's journey to Hoi An, Vietnam, from Honolulu—for the school to sell as a fundraising item." She's also taking a ceramics class at the Honolulu Museum of Art and continues to play tennis twice a week. • **Barb Howd Miller** reports that her recent move to Saratoga Springs, N.Y., has been a great success. "Right thing to do at the right time. I relish being near my son Matthew and his family. The little boys bring me great joy. And it puts me just that much closer to my Long Island gang as well. I joined a golf club and made some friends there and am able to ride my bike almost anywhere." Aside from missing her garden, she loves being in an apartment with no responsibilities! She's also found a church. • Retirement definitely is not an option for **Phil Kithil**, who reports from Santa Fe that his company Atmocean is still "making great progress" in the wave-energy testing phase in Peru. The firm was invited to make a presentation to the UN Solutions Summit in September. Check it out at www.solutions-summit.org/solutions-summit-featured. • Mary and **Bob Hintermaier** continue to rock along in San Antonio and recently celebrated 49 years of wedded bliss. Mary is recovering from her second knee replacement. "Both of us remark on just how long it takes to heal at this age." However, they did manage to get to Boston, Chatham, and Provincetown, Mass., to see family. Bob reports that Texas is still a red state and jokes that "the two of us are the token Democrats." • **Tom Berner** has retired from emergency medicine as that has become "a young man's sport" especially at a very busy hospital. "I work one day a week at a—believe it or not—weight loss clinic and feel like I have entered a new galaxy; it is so different. I love the patient contact and am taken by the challenge of behavioral modification (lifestyle) for my patients. I do Habitat for Humanity one day a week, working alongside a bunch of other geezers. I find life to be both simple and complex and sometimes can't tell one from the other." • **Jane Corbett** left her NYC government job in July 2015 to do strategic planning in the Montefiore Medical Center's community and government relations in the Bronx. "I ended up running a nonprofit of theirs, managing a business improvement district, dealing with the Bronx elected officials re grants, overseeing $35m in real estate holdings, and publishing a community newspaper." • Pam and **Earl Ball** spent part of last summer in the mountains outside of Boulder, Colo., visiting their younger son, his wife, and their two children. "Wonderful grandchildren time. We continue to live in Philadelphia. Most of my professional time is spent teaching at the Penn Graduate School of Education. I direct a master's program for individuals interested in school leadership. The program is unusual in that it combines public, charter, and independent school participants in a cohort format. I feel blessed to have the opportunity to work with these talented, dedicated, potential leaders. Every time the class meets I learn something new. I hope my perspective is of some value to them. Downtime is spent sailing on the Chesapeake and a healthy dose of family in Maine in the summer." • **Larry Gray** moved to Taos, N.M., three years ago and confesses to being thoroughly retired. "Beauty and climate got us to this eclectic place and continues to live up to its promise. Hiking, kayaking the Rio Grande, and skiing, not to mention the very active arts and cultural scenes here, are keeping us busy. Speaking of skiing, Taos Ski Valley is going through a huge update thanks to Middlebury's own Louis Bacon '79, who bought it two years ago from the original family owners. I managed to get in 25 days of skiing last year. My stepdaughters' two new children brightened our lives last February while my twin daughters' broods keep growing up quickly, hitting 9, 10, 10, and 11 respectively. All perfect human beings, of course." • **Bob Coutts** has moved from catering to the restaurant business. "I'm helping out a friend with his Mexican restaurant. My job runs the spectrum from bussing tables to taking customer orders to taking care of paying bills and the other admin stuff. They won't let me cook in the kitchen, which is a smart move, or who knows what would happen to those tacos! Customers would quickly be saying 'adios' and not coming back." • **Sally Scull Hunter** writes, "I am *so lucky* to have seven grandchildren. All live within daily driving distance, so I usually watch them once a week, which provides a focus with my husband Mike's death last fall. Since our three kids all had children in 2013 and then a last grandchild in 2015, there is still a lot of nose wiping, playing on the floor, swing pushing, etc. I will be ready to stop playing trucks and just help with homework in future years." She also works at Strawbery Banke's outdoor history museum and recently went to Morocco. "I really enjoyed walking to remote villages, then riding camels and sleeping in the desert." • On a sadder note, **Tom Trafton** passed away last May after a long and arduous illness. Tom grew up in Massachusetts and played tennis at Tabor Academy as well as at Middlebury, where he was a member of DU. Tom played a strong tennis game; he was a good competitor and a nice guy with a ready smile. He pursued an entrepreneurial career as a businessman, the owner and manager of several start-up companies. He was fond of sailing, traveling, and learning foreign languages. He continued to enjoy playing and teaching tennis and often competed in NELTA tournaments with his cousin Peter. Creative, imaginative, and independent by nature, Tom was described by friends as "living in a different time zone." • Check out a photo that **Tim Hollander** sent in on page 80!

—Class Correspondents: R.W. "T" Tall Jr. (ahmic29@gmail.com), 204 Clark Rd., Cornwall, VT 05753; Polly Moore Walters (polly@frii.com), 100 Grandview Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80521.

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As we begin our 51st post-Middlebury year, we'd like to share a few of the many comments we received on last June's reunion. **Dedee Kepple O'Neil** says, "It was fun reconnecting with people, hearing what had happened in their lives." • **Joan Lardner Paul** writes, "It was certainly an amazing reunion. Once I got home, I was able to concentrate on sending photos and notes to my contacts who were unable to join us." • **Don Snyder** says, "It truly was a GREAT weekend! Thanks for all the work that the reunion committee did. Hopefully it will not be five years before I see you all again." • **Judy Nothnagle Reynolds** says, "From the welcoming dinner at the Middlebury Inn, to the closing benediction at the reunion chapel service with **Jane Graham Sutherland** and Peter Delfausse '65 singing in the reunion choir—it was an amazing weekend." • **Nancy McMullin Fischer** reports,

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MARGOT CHILDS CHEEL

Little did Margot Childs Cheel realize that her interest in art would one day lead to aerial photography. Her creative path started out a little more conventionally. An art history major at Middlebury, she worked after college at WGBH-TV, where she was surrounded by arts and artists on camera. Then, after moving to Ottawa, Canada, she cofounded Twin Willows Art and Craft Center, which offered classes, supplies, and gallery exhibits.

With a move back to the Boston area, she continued along a similar path, offering art classes, facilitating workshops, and contributing to local art events. But when both daughters had left for college, she felt the need for a midlife adventure and said, out of the blue, "I'd like to do something different—like fly an airplane." This off-the-wall comment was immediately forgotten until signs started appearing, like an article in *Time* magazine about a woman learning to fly in her 50s. Margot began to take flying lessons and fell in love with it.

Photography was another passion she had discovered. When a fundraiser was put on at her church, where people could offer their time or talents to raise money, a local pilot offered to fly over people's properties and photograph their homes. His flying skills were fine but his photography needed some help, so Margot volunteered to get behind the camera. She was delighted by the views, the beauty, and the results. Her aerial photography career was born.

She's published books, exhibited her photos in numerous venues, and been hired by real estate companies, landowners, and environmental groups. But sometimes she flies for fun, which often has challenges. Early on she joined the Ninety-Nines International Organization of Women Pilots, which was founded in 1929 with Amelia Earhart as its first president. The organization holds yearly flying events, like a Poker Run and a Treasure Hunt in the Sky. Margot has also participated in a cross-country air race—which is where she encountered her scariest moment in flight. She and two other women pilots were racing across the country and were going over the Cascade Mountains. They unexpectedly hit a downdraft and lost altitude with mountains and clouds looming ahead of them. They managed to get above the clouds and the terrain to clear any obstacles just in time.

In general, though, the flying and photography run smoothly. Eighteen years after wanting to try something new, Margot is still passionate about the creative path she is on.

"While waiting in the airport in Burlington for our flight home, three Midd women from a much younger class saw my cane and asked which reunion I was attending. I told them that it was my 50th, and one of the women said, 'Oh, you were the ones making all of the noise.' I took that as a compliment for the whole class. Thanks again to everyone for all of the wonderful memories." • **Karen Glazier Kingsley** reflects, "There has been much said about the formative years and the times in which we grew up, but I just feel very happy and fortunate that we all (with those who were there, and those who could not be there) shared that together in our hearts and in our memories. I will treasure every meeting with old friends, new friends, and new experiences for the rest of my days. It was a wonderful reunion. Go Panthers! Love you all." • **Harriet Williams** writes, "Since reunion ended, I've been telling friends what nice people we had in our graduating class. Not simply nice, but more that everyone seemed to have a kind of open gentleness. It makes me wish I'd known us better in college. I was a junior transfer and a French major, so I lived in the Château during junior year; it wasn't until senior year that I got to know many in the class. It was a delight to get to spend time with our classmates at reunion. It was a wonderful weekend!" • We received a thank you note from Tiffany Stowe, who was our class fundraising liaison from the Gift Planning Office: "Wow! What an incredible celebration your 50th reunion was. You inspired us with your life stories, memories, music, and your unyielding dedication to Middlebury. You raised an incredible amount of money to support future generations of Middlebury students. And you even gained a new classmate—President Laurie Patton! Fantastic! I thank you for your dedication, generosity, and friendship. It has been a sincere joy working with you this past year and I'm going to miss you! Your warm hugs and high fives throughout the weekend will stay with me for months to come. Please stay in touch and especially please let me know if your travels bring you back to campus so we can catch up. Your enthusiasm for Middlebury was infectious and resulted in a truly great Reunion Weekend for everyone in attendance. On behalf of the entire College community, thank you!" • In early September, we were sad to hear that **Sandra Burrington Beck** had died after a long battle with cancer and respiratory illness, according to her obituary in the *Caledonia Record* in the St. Johnsbury, Vt., area. Sandie had returned to Waterford, Vt., in 1993 when she and husband Brent retired. He had a long career in the Navy. They had recently celebrated their 50th anniversary at their family camp on Miles Pond. During her husband's naval deployments, Sandie showed herself to be "an accomplished entrepreneur and educator." During their time in Oak Harbor, Wash., she started her own Montessori School in order to give her youngest son the same Montessori experience her older twin sons had in Detroit. The school still exists today. In retirement, Sandie was active in the Congregational Church, the St. Johnsbury Country Club, and the Waterford School District Board. She worked as an accountant at the Fairbanks Museum in St. Johnsbury. She delighted in her 10 grandchildren.

—Class Correspondents: Prue Frey Heikkinen (pheikkinen@att.net), 1914 Wayne St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104; Francine Clark Page (fpage2@myfairpoint.net), 19 Brigham Hill Ln., Essex Junction, VT 05452.

67 REUNION CLASS Our BIG 50th reunion is more than a dream (like it or not, we are there!) after a very fun and productive Alumni Leadership Weekend in September. Twenty-nine classmates met together, brainstormed and planned together, ate (very well) together, reminisced and laughed a lot, and challenged each other with our best ideas to make June 8–11 a not-to-be-missed event. Our mission, which all of us felt strongly about, is to make our reunion completely inclusive

and deeply meaningful for every classmate. • George Hinman summed up his experience of the weekend for all of us on Saturday night, and every head in the room was nodding in agreement: "I have only been back to Middlebury four times since our 25th reunion. As I turned off Route 89 towards Middlebury on Thursday, I was stunned by the beauty of the Vermont countryside this time of year. This was only enhanced by sitting in the football stadium on Saturday and looking out on the hills to the east. I had a chance to walk the campus and see many of the new buildings. The new field house would rival any other athletic facility in the country. At lunch we had a chance to talk about Middlebury—today and what is needed in the future. Today, you only see the sunshine, but the future will no doubt be more difficult. There will be a need for more financial aid as middle and lower income families prepare for college and there will possibly be reduced returns on the school's endowment. There has never been a time in the College's history when giving support was more important or appreciated. Remember that our gifts, unless otherwise designated, will go to our Class of 1967 Scholarship. As I drove home on Sunday morning I made a pact with myself to get back to this special place and special institution more often." • Leadership roles on the planning committee start with Don Elliman and Roxanne McCormick Leighton, both intimately involved with the College for many years serving as trustees and in many other capacities. George Hinman and Lee Powers Smith are heading up gifts and started us off with a challenge you'll be hearing about. Peter Kovner and Susie Davis Patterson are head host and hostess via the social committee, and Barb McEvoy Sepe Bentley and Karl Lindholm are bringing wonderful creativity, along with amazing thoroughness, to our yearbook production. Joining in our very collaborative efforts are Bruce and Ruth Ann Haas Beers, Jon Berger, Stu Bicknell, Nancy Boardman, Margot Childs Cheel, Nat Cheney, Cathie Clement, Jon and Jana Mara Coffin, Rick Hawley, Bill Hays, Dillon Jackson, Carol Collin Little, Freddie Mahlmann, Gary Richardson, Rich Roller, Carol Holmes Shattuck, Alex Taylor, Helen Martin Whyte, and Barbara Oswalt Wynn. • If your bio has not made it to Lyn DeGraff in the Alumni Office yet, fear not. But please sit down right now and tell us about yourself and what is important to you at this point in your life, and send it off ASAP. We will all spend some sleepless nights in early spring reading through all the entries, including ones for the deceased and even "disappearing" classmates who started with us in 1963. If you need any sort of help with this task, please call Lyn in the Alumni Office (802-443-5777) or contact Barb or Karl. • President Laurie Patton spoke to us in a couple of venues during the weekend, blowing us away with her competence, smarts, and warm personality. She likes to tell Middlebury Moment stories, and we have taken that idea and will be sharing Middlebury Moment stories—ones from our days on campus, from past reunions, from Wof67 gatherings, and other activities over the last 50 years involving classmates. Please join us in telling some of your Middlebury Moments. You can send them to anyone on the planning committee or to the Alumni Office, but Jana Mara Coffin is the designated collector (sanukmai@yahoo.com). • Gary Richardson put the "amen" on our gathering of the planning committee: "It was a great weekend. My only regret is that the entire class wasn't there, but we get another shot at that in June. And thanks to everyone else who was there. I feel like it took me 50 years to do it, but I have finally come home." Please come home to Middlebury with us in June! Your classmates would love to see you.
—Class Correspondents: Susan Davis Patterson (sdp@alumni.middlebury.edu), 67 Robinson Pkwy., Burlington, VT 05401; Alex Taylor (ataylor1145@gmail.com), 215 Wells Hill Rd., Lakeville, CT 06039.

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Leslie Dunkel Miller-Bernal retired from Wells College in 2011 after teaching sociology there since 1975 and ending up as dean and provost for the last five years. She says, "Husband Martin and I moved permanently to our home in Cambridge, England, but Martin died several months later from a long-term illness. I continue to live in Cambridge, traveling a lot and keeping busy with group walking, yoga, attending lectures and concerts, playing bridge, and seeing many friends. I visit my two sons and four U.S. grandchildren (who live in Vermont and California) twice a year, not that much less frequently than I see my five British stepgrandchildren who live in London and Cambridge! I had a wonderful 70th birthday celebration with a special friend who was turning 80. We called it a 'Celebrating 150 Years on Earth' party. I hope to attend our 50th reunion. It would be lovely to see many of you again." • Walter Becker writes, "I'm looking forward to our 50th reunion. I'm seven years now retired, living at the Villages in Florida, and I have discovered a new side of myself. I've become a thespian. I joined a couple of theater groups here and have performed a number of parts in several productions. And as many of you will remember about me—there is no such thing as a SMALL part when it comes to me." • Dan Curry writes, "I will be doing a presentation with NASA on the symbiotic relationship between science fiction and real science as well as moderating panels on the science of *Star Trek* and other subjects at an event called Escape Velocity, to benefit the newly formed Science Fiction Museum in Washington, D.C. I'll also be doing some workshops on filmmaking and visual effects at American Univ. Ben Gregg and I plan to get together while I'm there." • For over a year Robert Friedman has been providing primary medical care at the Plymouth County Correctional Facility in Massachusetts. "I get along pretty well with the prisoners, but the administration, not so much. I feel I'm doing something important, providing medical care for people who have not had the best of lives. I'm still cycling and riding each year in the Pan Mass Challenge, raising money for the Dana Farber Cancer Center. Probably no one remembers that when we were freshman, I entered and won the Middlebury pool tournament, beating a senior who was being cheered on by all his fraternity brothers. The freshmen showed up as I started to make a comeback and the rest is history. I am happy to say that I have my own pool table now. Cycling and playing pool are great diversions from some of the totally crazy days at the prison. I plan to remain there for as long as I can stand it as I enjoy practicing medicine and continuing my education." • Mart '66 and Carol Anderson Matthews attended Mart's 50th reunion in June and stayed with Carol's roommate, Magna Leffler Dodge, and husband David '69. They had a great time reminiscing with Dave and Nancy Brooks Richardson and Dick and Barbara Shean Lippert. The three couples are still together and manage to see each other every two out of five years at our respective reunions! In earlier years, kids would also be present, but they are all grown and taking care of the grandchildren. • Barbara Lippert enjoyed spending time with Nancy and Carol and also at separate times managed to run into Magna, Conrad Ambrette, and Xavieria Eichholtz Atkins, all of whom live in the area. She hopes as many of our classmates as possible will be able to make it back when it is our turn next year. The 50th is quite a big deal and the College really does it up right. • From Peter Knobler we hear, "I was pleased to be on campus in March 2015 for the 50th anniversary of Middlebury's participation in the Selma-to-Montgomery march with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Four other alumni and I got a standing ovation from a gathering of students and faculty, some of whom had just returned from doing community work in Montgomery as part of the commemoration. It demands thought when you're studied as history. I don't think we did anything heroic; we just acted on our best instincts. I encouraged the students around the table to do the same, and told them this story: In March 1965 when I was a freshman, as Dr. King was completing his march from Selma to Montgomery, a bunch of us decided we should march with him. Of the approximately 2,000 members of the Middlebury community, 23 faculty and students made the drive from Vermont to Alabama. At the time there was a Middlebury academic regulation that if you cut three classes in one semester you automatically flunked the course. I had Introductory Spanish on Wednesday and Friday, and when I called my professor to tell her I would be missing those classes because I was marching with Dr. King she told me, "I really think you should think of yourself first." It was at that moment, if I hadn't known it before, it became clear to me that there was more to education than was taught in the classroom, certainly more than I was being taught at Middlebury. I went,

I marched, I cut the classes, I came back and talked about the experience with everyone who would listen. More than not failing, I succeeded in having a much greater effect than two hours of freshman Spanish would have had on my life, and on the campus. For its part, Middlebury did learn. By October 1967 when it was time to levitate the Pentagon and mobilize to end the war in Vietnam, the Middlebury administration didn't protest our attendance." Peter's collaboration on Tommy Hilfiger's memoirs, *American Dreamer*, was published in November. • **North Shetter** writes, "Jan and I are spending winters in a condo at Burnt Store Marina near Punta Gorda, Fla. We sold our trawler but are looking for another, smaller boat." North is still flying and has developed a dental consulting business, Marina Cove Consulting, and is teaching a day a week at the LECOM Dental School in Bradenton. "Our summers are still spent on the shores of Green Bay in Menominee, Mich. I still visit the office a couple mornings a week, write a weekly blog post for LinkedIn, and help Jan with yard work. This summer's big plan is to improve my golf game so I can compete with Jan." • Don't forget to put our 50th reunion on your calendar, for early June 2018.

—Class Correspondents: Ben Gregg (bcgregg46@aol.com), 418 East St. NE, Vienna, VA 22180; Betty Austin Henderson (joyhumbird@aol.com), 3717 Club View Ct., Kerrville, TX 78028.

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Stefan Nagel writes, "I remain professionally active as a land conservation attorney representing owners of ecologically and historically significant properties in private ownership that are located throughout the U.S. and—increasingly—abroad. I have not yet retired, in large measure because the work is extremely satisfying. The work involves a healthy blend of tax, charitable, property, and land-use law, with the goal of protecting land for conservation purposes in a tax-efficient and tax-benefited manner. The highlight of my career has been the pleasure and honor of representing Middlebury College in two major land acquisition and conservation transactions: the acquisition of the stunningly beautiful Will Jackson property west of the campus, and the grant of the historic Bread Loaf land conservation easement to Vermont Land Trust. Several of my clients, including the College, have been honored with special awards for their land conservation efforts. On the nonprofessional, personal side, the highlight of my immediate life was the birth of grandchild number one to daughter Kirsten '06. Never a dull moment." • Seventeen Women of '69 gathered for a mini-reunion in September at **Mary MacArthur Wendell**'s lovely Brooksville, Maine, home. **Connie Coffin Carter** and **Beth Hitchner Kingston** coordinated the food. (Everyone pitched in to bring items, cook, and clean—all part of the fun!) **Ginny Hopper Hoverman** and **Elinor Livingston Redmond** led evening discussions, while **Betsy Taylor** offered Qi Gong to greet the day on the dock by Penobscot Bay. **Sue Robb Weidner** definitely made the longest trip to be there, though others did drive many hours Down East to join the group for what all acclaimed as a truly excellent chance both to reconnect with old friends and to make new ones. Others in attendance included **Julie von Wettberg**, **Barbara Brennan Dooley**, **Julia Lord Soule**, **Patty Cross Anderson**, **Linda Colwell Bouffard**, **Shirley Markland**, **Marge Carran Shepardson**, **Dijit Tripp Taylor**, **Pat Whitney Messler**, and me, **Anne Harris Onion**. We heartily encourage others to join us wherever we may meet next year, or perhaps to create other mini-reunions in their parts of the country. As our 50th reunion approaches, we are unanimous in hoping that our classmates know we want to see them there, and if they have not yet tasted the amazing power of our shared experience so many years ago to open the door to new connections, don't wait until it's too late! And we also noted this: do not worry if you have not yet written the Great American Novel or received a Presidential Medal of Freedom—so many in our class are doing meaningful work in their communities, either in jobs or as volunteers, making life better for others in small ways that only we may recognize. More power to the long ago but still living Middlebury influence! Write and let us know what you are doing! • **Mary Wendell** writes, "**Anne Onion**, **David Dodge**, **Clubbo Minton**, and I represented our class at the Alumni Leadership Conference in late September and had a wonderful time reconnecting with each other and with people from the Class of '68. We were also very impressed with our new president, Laurie Patton, and her remarks on Saturday morning. She is warm, intelligent, articulate, energetic, and a terrific leader for Midd. The four of us met with staff members who help classes organize their 50th reunion. We are already excited about gathering as many of our classmates together as we can for our 50th in 2019 and hope you will all START PLANNING NOW to join us for the weekend. Please make sure that your contact information (especially your email) is up-to-date so you won't miss our news. You can amend this at go.middlebury.edu/update. Also, if you have not yet joined our private website, please do so now—go to middleburycollege69.org. It's a great source of news of classmates and as the reunion gets closer, we will use it for information about the reunion, shared memories, and whatever other topics we all want to discuss. Also, if you would like to serve on the reunion committee as a class agent or as a planner, let us know—and we are hoping ALL committee members will come to next fall's ALC: October 27–29! Finally, we also have a Class of 1969 Facebook page, so if you are on Facebook, please join us there as well!"

—Class Correspondents: Anne Harris Onion (aonion27@gmail.com), PO Box 207, Gilmanton, NH 03237; Peter Reynolds (preyn@gmavt.net), 493 Stillmeadow Ln., Addison, VT 05491.

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We received this update from **Judy Lelchook-Lohman**: "Climate change is surely showing its violent head. As part of the American Red Cross (ARC) Mental Health team, I was deployed to help reduce the stress among staff and clients made homeless by the flooding down around Baton Rouge in early September. I am always amazed by the generous spirit of ARC volunteers who fly in from all over the world. We had an individual from India serving Cajun food and social workers and public health nurses from Washington State; I flew overnight from D.C., while sleeping on the floor of the Atlanta airport, when the heavy rains delayed our flight down. It was an amazing 10 days." • **Sue Ellen Thompson** reports: "Now that he is retired and living back in Maryland with me, **Stuart (Parnes)** and I have promised ourselves we will start traveling again—two trips a year is our goal, along with many shorter trips to our house on Texas Falls Road in Vermont. We made two trips out West the first year, and this past year it was Costa Rica and Italy. I don't think he misses working one bit! I am still teaching the occasional poetry workshop once or twice a month in D.C., Annapolis, or Rehoboth, Del. My fifth book of poetry came out in 2014 so I am still doing quite a few readings to keep that moving. Otherwise, it's life in the slow lane here on the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake." • **May Coors** sent this update: "In August my dad turned 100 and family from the six branches of Adolph Sr.'s family met for a reunion. All three of our kids and their families were able to make it, which was wonderful. Soon after that I had a wonderful four-day visit with Ginny Irving '71 and her husband in Hood River, Ore. We see each other every so often, but this was special—plenty of time to catch up." • We received a sad news item from **Ginger Ward**. Her beloved husband, Tom Bauer, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on June 11, 2016, due to a blood clot. Tom was not a Middlebury grad, but was a member of the Cane Society and loved visiting Middlebury with Ginger. We send heartfelt condolences to Ginger.

—Class Correspondents: Beth Prasse Seeley (beth@seeley.com); Nancy Crawford (ncrawford_sutcliffe@comcast.net).

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Stephanie Davis Lett writes: "I immensely enjoyed our (dare I say it?) 45th reunion! It was great catching up with classmates, exchanging stories about Batts Hall, and recounting tales about 8 a.m. classes. Thanks to **Hector Griswold**, I didn't have to make the trip by myself. (My husband Doug wasn't able to attend this year.) We still live in Central New Jersey and are both recently retired. We have been spending our time renovating a house in Washington, D.C. (where someday we hope to *really* retire), volunteering for church activities, helping with community and alumni programs (including tutoring high school students and interviewing candidates for Midd), and studying Chinese. (We lived in Hong Kong

for a few years.) Our daughter Michele is a junior at Loyola Univ. My career track included graduate school (Spanish and Latin American studies) at Princeton, teaching Spanish at the Univ. of Texas and Rutgers, then switching to finance—always dealing with transactions involving Latin America. I confess I had somehow forgotten how breathtakingly beautiful the area around Middlebury is. Now that we have a little more free time, I hope we'll get up to Vermont more frequently." • Correspondent **Gail Cross Giebink** caught up with **Jim Ouimette**. Jim has lived in Vermont almost continuously since freshman year in 1967. After graduation, he tended bar at the Waybury Inn, then taught math at Vergennes High School. In 1974 he left to get his law degree at the Univ. of Maine, then returned to Vergennes to practice law with classmate **Jim Runcie**. He lives in Vergennes with Barb, his wife of 43 years, and continues his law practice, mostly real estate, wills, and trusts. Jim and Barb have three children, all grown, and several grandchildren. He loves living in Vermont—"a stunningly beautiful place"—and enjoys being a lawyer in a small town where he knows everybody, even those kids he taught in high school, who are now in their 50s. He occasionally sees other classmates who've stayed in the area, including Runcie (daily), **Peter Quinn**, Bill '69 and **Abi Procter Sessions**, **John Baker**, and a few more. Summing it all up, Jim says simply, "It's not an anonymous life." • **Martha Murray** reports from New Haven, Conn.: "On January 1, 2016, I called myself officially retired from my 30-plus years of law practice—but it didn't last long. I have embarked on a new career as an interim executive director for New Haven's nonprofit organizations. My first gig was with a small nonprofit library that was founded in 1826. The job was to keep the place moving forward while the board searched for a new director. Days after that ended, I accepted an interim position at a local arts organization. It's bigger and more complex than the library, and I'm finding new challenges every day. When I was thinking about retiring, I was advised to stay open to new possibilities. After years of being 'too busy,' the idea of having a clean house in retirement was really appealing.

GRADUATE SCHOOLS

BREAD LOAF SCHOOL OF ENGLISH

Monica Weis SSJ (MA '73), professor emerita of English at Nazareth College, has published her third book. *Thomas Merton and the Celts* offers a new lens through which to view Merton's life and spirituality. • Dr. **Clive Bridgham** (MA '79) was one of the 17 chiropractors from eight countries chosen by the Rio 2016 organizing committee to serve in the host medical services during the Olympics and Paralympics. He is a chiropractic sports medicine specialist and director of the Barrington (R.I.) Chiropractic and Sports Medicine Clinic. • **Daniel Picker** (MA '92) writes, "One of my new short stories, 'That Fall,' appears in *The Kelsey Review*, a peer-reviewed literary journal, in the fall 2016 edition. Recently, a short story, a travel article, and a book review have appeared in *The Abington Review*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, and *The Sewanee Review*." • Serving as the head of Forsyth School in St. Louis, **Michael Vachow** (MA '93) is on the accreditation review committee of the Independent Schools Assoc. of the Central States (ISACS) and is an ISACS mentor for new heads of school. • In October the Rev. **Lisa Durkee** (MA '96) was installed as the pastor at the Congregational Church of Weston, Mass. She earned her Master of Divinity from Andover Newton School of Theology and was ordained in the United Church of Christ in 2007. • **Ceci Durazo Lewis** (MA '99) recently completed her Doctor of Philosophy in Mexican American studies through the Univ. of Arizona. For the past nine years she has been on the faculty of Cochise Community College as an English instructor and serves as the English Dept. chair. • **Katie Heldt Bausler** (MA '07) had her poem "Extraordinary equinox 2016" published in *Juneau Empire*. A former broadcast journalist, she is the community relations director for Bartlett Regional Hospital and a volunteer DJ on public radio in Juneau. She has had several pieces published in the Univ. of Alaska Southeast literary journal. She and husband Karl are residents of the island of Douglas, Alaska. • The Long Lake (N.Y.) Central School District Board of Education recently appointed **Noelle Short** (MA '10) as acting principal/superintendent to cover a temporary medical leave of absence. She has taught grades 7–12 English language arts for the past six years and served as lead teacher. • This academic year **Nate Cutting** (MA '11) began teaching English at Schenck High School in East Millinocket, Maine.

BETTY ASHBURY JONES MA '86 SCHOOL OF FRENCH

John Foster (MA '64) has published *A Gesture of Words: Poetry Forms and Formulas*, a book that makes available a wide variety of poetry forms to aspiring poets. He provides the reader with the unique characteristics of more than 30 kinds of verse, including such unfamiliar forms as Burmese Ya-du, Persian Ghazal, Senryu of Japan, and Malaysian Pantoum, as well as more familiar examples of Western poetry. • **Jill Cox** (MA '96) has published her first novel, about a college junior who studies abroad in Paris. Jill studied at the Middlebury C.V. Starr School in France while it was located at Reid Hall, which inspired the setting for her story. *The Bridge* is available on Amazon or through Jill's website, jillcoxbooks.com.

GERMAN SCHOOL

Maj. Gen. **Edward Dormann** (MA '92) recently coauthored an article for *U.S. Pacific Command* titled "Pacific Talent Management: A Regional Approach to Recruiting and Retaining Talent." He is the commanding general of the 8th Theater Sustainment Command and the deputy commanding general for sustainment for the U.S. Army Pacific at Fort Shafter, Hawaii. • **Katrina Griffin** (MA '07) was nominated for Maryland Teacher of the Year. She teaches German at North Country High School in Anne Arundel County. She is the 2016 national Foreign Language Teacher of the Year finalist.

MIDDLEBURY INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AT MONTEREY

Lefteris Kafatos (MACI '10) is an interpreter at the U.S. State Dept. Office of Language Services, an agency founded by Thomas Jefferson to facilitate communication with non-English-speaking governments and people. In May he found himself interpreting for President Obama on his historic visit to Hiroshima, Japan. Lefteris was first introduced to the Japanese language while attending the Univ. of Hawaii and later went to Japan as part of the Japan Exchange and Teaching program. He ended up staying for nine years. After further studies at the Inter-University Center in Yokohama, he worked as a translator before making the jump to interpreting. He says of his trip with the president, "When I was first assigned to the visit, I didn't fully realize the implications of it.... People were feeling a lot of raw emotions.... Still, there was a genuineness to that moment that transcended words and certainly my minimal role as interpreter." • **Cameron Walker** (MAIEP '10) recently began working in Yellowstone National Park as park operator Xanterra's sustainability program manager. He is responsible for reducing the impact of 3,000 staff and 4.5 million annual park visitors by leading projects that address energy and water efficiency, renewable energy, recycling and waste management, hazardous materials, and sustainable food, among other things.

SPANISH SCHOOL

Serving 60 years, Sr. **Maria Teresa de Bourbon** (MA '65) belongs to the Sisters of Charity of New York. Over the years she has taught in various schools, served at Centro Hispano at St. Patrick's parish in Newburgh, N.Y., aided in the formation of Neighbors United for Justice in Housing, served as a social worker in the Family Health Center, and worked in the Newburgh City School District's pre-K center. • **Nancy Fermoselle** (MA '14) was awarded a grant by the Fauquier Excellence in Education Foundation to chaperone students on a tour of Costa Rica last summer. A Spanish teacher at Kettle Run High School, she has been teaching for 13 years, the last eight in Fauquier County, Va.

But I found cleaning house both boring and frustrating. I much prefer being useful to others and having a messy house. Only time will tell whether this new career will continue, but in the meantime I'm having fun. It was great to see you all at our 45th reunion. My husband, **John Gambell,** and I always enjoy meeting up with members of 'our tribe' (to quote **Rob Waters**). For those of you on the verge of retirement, I say go for it. You never know what is around the corner." • **Sandy Neily** writes from Maine: "I was sorry to miss reunion but was busy with a medical challenge that's on its way to being history. I am so grateful for the messages I've received from classmates along the way. I've kept close tabs on **Mike Welebit** as he built a hospital in the Middle East, and last year I spent a divine week of laughter and loons with **Karen Lindsay Palmer** at Rocky Wold Deephaven in New Hampshire. In 2015, **Peter Quinn** and Marian Greenberg hosted me when I attended Bread Loaf's Orion Environmental Writers' Conference. Since leaving Middlebury I've had a varied career closely entwined with the conservation of Maine's woods, waters, and wildlife habitat. I've been a Registered Maine Guide, whitewater outfitter and business owner, cofounder of a coalition to protect the Penobscot River, and a director of several conservation schools. My daughter, Elizabeth, is now a PA working in oncology, and this past winter I remarried a wonderful man, Robert Clunie, who's both a licensed captain as well as my fly-fishing buddy. Bob's made it possible for me to write my first novel, which, as an unpublished manuscript won a national contest from the Mystery Writers of America and was a finalist in the national Women Fiction Writers Association's Rising Star competition. *Deadly Trespass* will be published in January." • **Barbara Laudenslager Mosley** checks in from her bakery in Wolfeboro, N.H.: "Boy, did I miss seeing you all at reunion! I had every intention of being there, but life intervened. An unexpected surgery took me out of commission for a couple of weeks, which was crazy as it was the wedding season and the bakery needed my cakes. So I carved out a 12-day period and baked like crazy the night before surgery, heading back to work on Day 11. Since my partner became ill, I've been flying solo at the bakery. She was an integral part of the shop and her absence has been hard for me. I love the shop and the community we've found through our work, but the 10-hour days have taken a toll, and I am ready for a new venture. I now have a 'staging' credential and am prepping to renovate houses. And I'm working with Families in Transition, awesome folks who are coming to Wolfeboro to begin a program for homeless kids and families. I'm looking forward to the future and to seeing you all at the next reunion. If travels bring you near New Hampshire, give me a call. I'd love to see you."

—Class Correspondents: Gail Cross Giebink (ggiebink@austin.utexas.edu); Carolyn Ungberg Olivier (carolyn.olivier@gmail.com); Rob Waters (robwaters7012@mindspring.com).

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REUNION CLASS **Doug LaMont** was reunited with old friends **Skip** and Janet Frey '73 **DeVito** along with **Evey Zmudsky LaMont** and husband Tom Singer at Chico Hot Springs, Pray, Mont., for the wedding of son Tyler LaMont. For the many coming from the East Coast, the recent bear attacks in the Yellowstone region were a bit daunting, but they were well prepared with bear spray! • After twenty-five-and-a-half years at the Library of Congress, **Bill Collins** retired in May 2016 and quickly learned how easy it was to fill his weekdays with activities formerly confined to the weekend. With wife Rachel (Brunstetter) '73, he first visited various Western national parks, then began immersing himself in reading (science fiction and religious history, especially), writing (mostly book reviews), working for social justice (racial amity, gender equality, and welcoming refugees), choral singing, cycling, and many activities related to his and Rachel's Bahá'i faith. Bill has served for many years on the Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'is of Mount Vernon, Va., and the Atlantic states regional council of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'is of the U.S., for which he is currently treasurer. Occasionally, he teaches for a Bahá'i distance learning institution. Bill and Rachel, a successful watercolor artist, also periodically officiate at Bahá'i marriage ceremonies. Bill has concluded that, all in all, this busy retirement is "actually quite joyous." • **Kathy Mulligan Lord** reports that she just got back from a mini-reunion of sorts, all '72 classmates. Attending were Kathy, **Sarah Pratt Nesbitt**, **Lindy Frew Brownell**, **Janet Halstead Franklin**, **Nancy Morgan Serpa**, **Carlie Butcher Garonzik**, **Rebecca Patterson Bruns**, and **Mary Kate Sullivan Cox**, who was the hostess in Old Saybrook, Conn. They are urging everyone to reach out to their old friends to attend our Midd reunion June 9–11. "One of the best things about reunion is the 'new' old friends you make." It's a beautiful time of year in Vermont. Ideas and volunteers needed, so get in touch with us. • Your class correspondents also look forward to reconnecting with '72ers in person for our 45th reunion in June!

—Class Correspondents: Jennifer Hamlin Church (jhchurch@sienaheights.edu); Evey Zmudsky LaMont (eveylamont@primetimetransition.com).

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Well, the sparsely populated Northeast Kingdom is densely covered in this issue's Midd news, as I (**Lindy**) met up with two more of our classmates who found their way to this part of Vermont. • **Bruce Tanner** writes, "After dropping out of Midd (twice), I ultimately earned a BS in math (magna cum) from UVM in '78 and an MS in geochemistry and mineralogy from Penn State in '84. After marriage in 1980 to Candace Beck, two children (Will and Kelly), and a career as tech staff in university geology departments (Iowa State and UC Santa Cruz), I separated from my wife of 30 years (ultimately divorcing) and opted for early retirement in 2011. En route back to Vermont in a U-Haul, I paid a visit to old Midd pals **Peter Johnson** and Anne Mead Beals '74 in Virginia. One thing led to another and now Anne and I are engaged to be married (stay tuned, no date set yet). I now split time between Fredericksburg, Va., and Westmore, Vt., as does Anne. While in Vermont, I live on the shores of beautiful Willoughby Lake with my mother (father recently deceased). Interestingly, Mom and Dad also first met at Midd while Mom (Nancy Swift) was studying Italian at the summer Language School in '46. As so often happens, I find myself busier than ever in retirement, since I am now a trustee of the Westmore Community Church and sing bass in the choir, treasurer for both the Westmore Assoc. and the Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds, and sing in a local community chorus, Northsong. I also am a volunteer lake monitor for Willoughby Lake and go out every 5–10 days during the summer to take water samples and readings to submit to the Dept. of Environmental Conservation. I worked for a few years as a part-time driver at Jay Peak Resort (for the free skiing, of course!) but am now retired from that, too. I can be contacted at bruce.tanner50@gmail.com or 802-525-4471." As an aside, I have to thank Bruce for helping me find my way up to the Kingdom as I fell in love with Willoughby Lake back in the summer after senior year when Bruce held a party at the family's home, and the area lured me back in the mid-70s after a brief time in California. And I'm super excited that two Midd Kids in their 60s are getting hitched!" • What interesting things can happen when you follow a passion and it guides your path through life! It was very interesting to visit with **John Bell** this summer in Glover, Vt., at Bread and Puppet, the creative theater that has been the guiding light for him since Middlebury. John currently directs the Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry while teaching at the Univ. of Conn.-Storrs and has also created a theater company in NYC, Great Small Works. But his beginnings in the field and his 46-year involvement with Bread and Puppet started in college. Through Quaker meetings he began to work with faculty (including French Professor Simon Barenbaum) who were peace activists and who invited director Peter Schumann and the Bread and Puppet company to the College, where they performed in the old theater building. Other activist programs included a show on Laos. John was also very involved in music, in acting in college dramatic productions, and in traveling with friends to Bread and Puppet shows in Plainfield, Vt. When graduation rolled around, John, like many of us, was unsure of the next step—teaching? Law school? He ended up working for the summer with Bread and Puppet and the rest is history. After meeting wife Trudi Cohen there they remained in Vermont for the next 10 years as Bread and Puppet got established in Glover, where giant pageants were held in the '70s and '80s. John and Trudi moved to NYC in 1983 when he

decided to attend graduate school at Columbia Univ. and pursue his interest in puppetry and theater history. He ultimately obtained a doctorate degree and began a college teaching career, which was always supplemented by creative work in political and other theater productions, puppetry, music, and writing, such as his 2008 book *American Puppet Modernism*. John's current book project is an anthology of all the Bread and Puppet plays. They now live in Boston but he and Trudi head up to the green hills of Glover every summer to build huge papier-mâché puppets and pass on their creative spirit to the next generation of puppeteers. What a life! See Facebook for links to his work. • We're always looking forward to hearing from classmates near and far! And we're also sleuthing for some information about our '73 Commencement speech: does anyone remember who was originally slated to speak before President Armstrong asked Loren Eiseley to make the address? Any memories of the speech he gave would be greatly appreciated, as well.

—Class Correspondents: Lisa Donati Mayer (ldmayer@aol.com); Lindy Osterland Sargent (davelindysarg@gmail.com).

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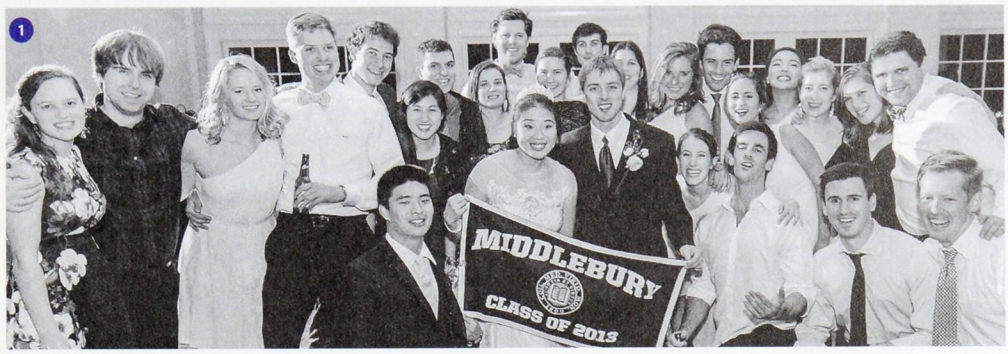
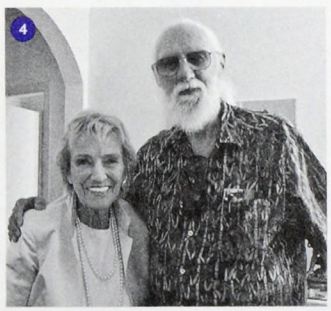
Dan Somers writes, "Julia and I continue to live in Green Village, N.J., on the exurban fringe of New York City. We have been here since 1987 with no expectation of moving. Our four children have left: two are in Boston, one is in Brooklyn, and one lives in nearby Madison. We still share the premises, however, with a full complement of chickens, horses, rabbits, and assorted household pets—dogs, a cat, and a parakeet. Julia directs a regional environmental group, the New Jersey Highlands Coalition, while I continue to practice law in Morristown. I appear to be following in the footsteps of Daniel Curtis '87, who is featured in an earlier issue of the magazine, in that I am in my third year at Drew University's seminary, with a focus on prison ministry. We were in Scotland last year for a brief visit with our three daughters, Fiona, Emma '07, and Camilla (our son Nico could not get away), where we introduced Emma's year-old daughter Tessa to her great-grandfather—a treat for all concerned." • We have learned that photographer Anne Weathers Ritchie recently had an exhibit at the Dublin (N.H.) Community Center. According to a *Monadnock Ledger* article about the exhibit, "Her love for the water and the earth, coupled with the life that comes from them, is apparent in the images she frames in her photographic work." Anne's work has also been exhibited in Maine and featured in *Zest Maine* magazine and *Echoes*, the magazine of the White Mountain School. She lives in southern Maine and tells us, "I recently moved and am living within walking distance of the beach, where I swim daily at high tide. I'm working part time at Brahms Mount, a Maine weaving company with a flagship store in Freeport, doing my photography, seeing occasional educational consulting clients, and avidly gardening,



1 Tiffany Kuo '13 and Chris Schlabach '13 were married on November 14, 2015, in Chattanooga, Tenn., with many Midd family and friends celebrating with them: (all '13 unless noted) Teddy Kuo '15, the newlyweds, Julia Deutsch, Spencer Lunghino, Brian Foster, Will Oberrender, (second row) Danielle Baker, Luke Brown, Lily Proom '14, Michael Koniares, Andrew Torman, Lauren Yang, Dustin Weigl, Salena Casha, Spencer Burch, Catherine Hayes '12, Jack Maher '12, Elise Cohen '11, Astrid Rademeyer, Alex Coblin '12, Vanessa Neergheen, Frances Aderhold, Anna Breu '15, Jenna Reichenbach '14, and Mike Bayersdorfer '10. 2 Olivia Kenna '08 and Joachim Skyaasen '08 (in front) were delighted to celebrate their wedding in San Francisco on August 8, 2015, with Middlebury friends: Kelsey Smith Whitsett '07, Willa Kammerer '07, Simran McKenna '07, Daphne Morrison '08, Alexander Zafiriou '08, (second row) Toral Patel '09, Sarri Al-Nashashibi '08, Mauricio Osorio '08, Vani Sathisan '07, Nikitas Stamatopoulos '07, and Anton Altement '08. 3 Kristen Gustavson '91 and Jim Phillips '91 were married on June 20, 2015, at the Fells in Newbury, N.H. Midd Kids who helped them celebrate included (all '91 unless noted) Steve Hanna '90, Felice De Ruggiero '90, Maggie Phillips '19, the newlyweds, Sagri Singh, Beth Conway '90, (second row) Matthew Baum '95, Johannes Ernharth, Rob Tod, Chris Adshead, Jonathan Nolde, and Barry Komitor '90.



4 While traveling in Europe Herb Melchoir '52 and wife Hilda got together with Barbara Oetjen Cocchini '52 in Milan, Italy, where she lives: Barbara and Herb. 5 In Mumbai, India, Rashna Kharas '09 and Charlie Burns were married on February 17, 2016. Friends and family who attended included (all '09 unless noted) Waylon D'Mello, Edwin Mitchell, (second row) Rohan Kamalia, Mattia Sacco Botto (non-Midd), Khushnum Kharas '06, Alison Levy, Claire Graves, the newlyweds, Lindsay Rotherham, Antoinette Rangel, Jesse Sucher, (third row) Dhruv Dharnidharka, Daniel Leiter '06, Akshay Khanna, Robert Gosney, and Phoebe Tran (non-Midd).

paddling, and studying yoga." • **James Rugen** tells us, "In March, Nancy (Burns) '75 and I spent a long weekend in Middlebury expressly to attend a piano recital given by Diana Egbers Fanning '71 in celebration and commemoration of her 40 years of teaching at the College. We were so delighted to reunite with her; to see former professors Emory Fanning, George Todd, Aleksandra Baker, and John Hunisak; to meet Tana Scott '65, the widow of our beloved Chaplain Charles Scott (we serendipitously happened to sit next to her at the recital); and to see **Karen Thorkilsen**, Bob '72 and Kathy Wonson Eddy '73, and Middlebury music professor Peter Hamlin '73 and Christine Robbins '73. On our way home to Connecticut, we stopped in Braintree, Vt., to spend time with Kathy and Bob Eddy, to marvel at their beautiful home, and to catch up after 43 years! Although officially retired, I still teach music part time at Loomis Chafee and am delighted to have Harriet Diamond Borriello '82 as an adult piano student, from whom I learn a great deal."

—Class Correspondents: Barry Schultz King (kinglet@together.net); Steve Trebino (stevetrebino@gmail.com).

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Philippa Billikopf Anderson sent this update: "**Joe** worked for Texas Instruments for 37 years and was the pension manager for 27 years. I worked at a school library, delighting at the opportunity to read to the children. We both retired a couple of years ago. Throughout all these years Joe has pursued his genealogy passion. He has edited the last nine volumes of the continuing series *Maine Families in 1790* as well as numerous other works in the field. He also edits *The Maine Genealogist* quarterly and coedits *The American Genealogist*, a national journal. I try to visit my family in Chile as often as I can. Both Joe and I have become bridge addicts. Our three daughters live in the cities of Dallas, Chicago, and New York." (philippaanderson5@gmail.com) • **Wes Brooks** writes, "It has been a busy couple of years for us Brookses. All three kids, including Sarah '09, have gotten married; Kate and I have completed 10 years at Lawrenceville School, where I have been the CFO and COO; and I have given a year's notice to retiring and moving to a house we are fixing up in Evergreen, Colo., near Steve and Sarah (Brooks) Delp, for our next chapter, this time in the Rockies. We continue to see the bad boys of Stuart at least once a year—**Burley Dickerson**, **Michael Cushman**, **Dick Gordon**, **Tony MacDonald**, and **Curt Viebranz**, along with enduring spouses/partners, as well as the infamous **Sherry Haydock**. All are well and undiminished, or so they claim!" (wesrbrooks@gmail.com) • **George Stout** reports: "Although I spend most of my free time in Vermont, I still work in New Jersey, and fortunately I have a home provided for me on my company's property. I am general curator at Six Flags Safari Park, which I have been for the past 25 years or so. I plan on retirement, or at least semi-retirement, very soon and will move to Fair Haven, Vt. Son Mike is a sophomore at Castleton, which gives me a great excuse to travel to his football games and root for the wide receiver." (gstout3549@icloud.com) • **Susan Martin** writes, "I have followed the life adventures of all my classmates from this very column, without being a contributor, but two reunions (35th and 40th) have convinced me even more strongly that Middlebury graduates are some of the most amazing, thoughtful, kind, well-rounded, and interesting people on the planet. And I agree wholeheartedly with **Polly Hallett Kawalek**'s comments in the summer issue; it is not about stellar kids, overcharged careers, or lists of things achieved, but more the twists and turns, the stories, the bumps in the roads of all our amazing journeys. I want to add at this point 'Hats off!' to the participants in the Moth session at our 40th reunion—what bravery, openness, and trust you all showed to us, your audience. I would love to see that be a permanent part of our reunion schedule. That said, I am living on Amelia Island, the very northeast corner of Florida, after 23 years in the Atlanta, Ga., area pursuing careers at McKinsey and Company and Egleston Children's Hospital and, with the help of husband Bob Dudiak, raising two wonderful boys, now 25 and 28. Alas, they were not Middlebury material, attending Georgia Tech and Cal Tech respectively, and followed their computer dreams at Apple and the State Department. That leaves me happily retired but busier than ever. I am a docent, costumer creator, and board member of the local Amelia Island Museum of History, a member of the Amelia Island Sea Turtle Watch, and the Amelia Island Mad Paddlers. Kayaking in Florida is amazing—we have been to the Everglades, the Okefenokee, the Silver, Oklawaha and Crooked Rivers, and Juniper Springs, as well as making crossings over to Cumberland Island, the next island north. Bob and I take two major ski trips a year and add one National Park every year—Olympic this year, where Peter Durkee and his wife will join us. *Our doors are open at any time* on Amelia Island; it is a magical place, with a full canopy of live oak instead of palm trees, 12 miles of open beaches, and bounded by Cumberland Island National Seashore and Talbot Island State Parks." (smdudiak@gmail.com) • **Anne Rathbone Winskie** writes that at the end of 2015 she and her husband, John, eased into retirement after closing their two-person company through which they'd done Russian translations and editing since 1989. Anne just celebrated her 20th anniversary volunteering at a wonderful animal shelter. • **Elliott Blue** sent the sad news that he recently learned **David Wilson** died on June 4, 2009. David was living in Bermuda at the time. A longer note from Elliott will appear in the spring issue. • **Chris Tower Zafren** is happily retired, living in Anchorage, Alaska, and enjoying exercise, watercolor painting, violin playing, volunteering, and life. She has been married to Ken, an ER physician, for almost 33 years. Their daughter is a sophomore attending Bowdoin College. In April, she and Ken will return to the Khumbu in Nepal for a month of revisiting the places they saw in 1989. • If you would like to contact a classmate or if you have a child considering a profession and would like to find a classmate in that profession, please let us know.

—Class Correspondents: Nan Rochelle McNicholas (hbmidd@yahoo.com); Kathy Smith Ward (katherinesward@msn.com).

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At our 40th reunion in June, we were shanghied...strong-armed...we very gladly volunteered to take on the class correspondent duties from **Gene O'Neill**. • **Delia Walch Mohlie** lived in Battell South, second floor, in 1972. There was one pay phone in the corner of the two halls; it was (supposedly) an all-female dorm; and you could see the Green Mountains from Mead Chapel and the Adirondacks from anywhere on the ridge toward the SDUs. Yep, that was a long time ago. Now she lives in a brand-new modular in midcoast Maine with a landline and a cell phone, in coed housing with husband Ted '78 (37 years in November), and she can see their pond from the dining room window and saltwater if she goes into downtown Waldoboro. Their kids are launched—Ben in the Austin, Texas, area working for a space startup, and Eliza in the D.C. area, working for the government. They have one granddaughter, Nova, and love to take her for walks when it is less than 100 degrees in Austin. • **Sue Lewellen LeFeber** lived in Battell North, first floor, and in 1972 was just starting to get to know future husband **Bill** (now married over 40 years). Bill is a dermatologist, still stamping out skin disease, and Sue is a doctor of a different kind, happily teaching at the Univ. of Dubuque Theological Seminary. Sue and Bill share a house in Mequon, Wis., on weekends, and during the week Sue hides out in her tiny apartment in Iowa. Their daughters grew up to become Midd Kids: Sarah graduated in February '03 and Carrie in May '04. Both promptly moved to California and granddaughter Ellie lives too far away. • We both enjoyed reunion last June, and it was great to see many who had not come to reunion before. It's such a treat to go back and share news, tour the campus, and just plain have fun with classmates. Most of us are pondering downsizing, and some of us have actually done it...well, have mostly done it...okay, we weeded out one closet. If you want to see some photos and try to figure out who is who, check out the Facebook page at Middlebury College Class of 1976. Or you can visit the blog: midd76.wordpress.com. One of our duties as correspondents is to solicit news, which we hope you will send us as soon as possible, because there is such a long lead time for each issue. It doesn't have to be headline news—just let us know what's going on with you and your family, job, or travels. Have you done something in the past year you've always wanted to do? • Another duty is to share news when we lose a classmate. **Steven Brown** passed away on June 7. Here is an excerpt from **Chris Mead**'s

post on our Facebook page: "I have the sad obligation to say that I heard from Joan Fucillo, the former spouse of our classmate, Steven Brown, known always as 'Big Belly,' that Steve died yesterday, after an extended illness. Steve had suffered a series of strokes and had been on disability for quite some time when he died. He was both exceptionally bright and extremely funny, although languid to a fault, and attended med school in both Belgium and New Jersey, becoming eventually a neurologist, and ultimately a specialist in migraines, before he ceased practicing as a result of his disability. He and Joan have one daughter, Rosie, who Steve adored. Steve had one toast he made a thousand times: 'Here's to eternity. May it last forever.' So long, old friend. Now you get to find out if that toast worked." • We hope you will share your news with us by April 1 for the summer issue.

—Class Correspondents: Sue Lewellen LeFeber (lefeber@att.net); Delia Walch Mohlie (mohlie295@yahoo.com).

77 REUNION CLASS An open note to the Class of 1977—Reunion Is Coming! (Yes, I've been binging *Game of Thrones.*) This reunion it will be 40 years since graduation—which means those of us still here will have spent two-thirds of our lives "post-Middlebury." And I'm sure you all have stories to share. So, plan to come to reunion. Trade notes and memories of what it was like prior to Facebook, Twitter, and email. Be thankful there were no cell phone cameras at the 'Bi or the Bowl. And as I am not active on Facebook or other similar media, send an email with an update to let us know where and what you've been up to. • To kick it off, this past year Carol and I added one new daughter-in-law and two new granddaughters—and again encountered the miracles of the modern NICU. We are also one semester away from having no more college students in the house. Life is good. On a more serious note, I am sad to write that **Terry Baer** passed away last year. Terry was a strong friend with a quick smile and wit, and our thoughts go out to his family. • And, last, if anyone more actively engaged in the social media world would like to step up or step in, we've got a place for you. We look forward to seeing you in June and hearing from you anytime—notes are great and pictures are good, too.

—Class Correspondent: Bob Lindberg (boblindberg1928@gmail.com).

78 Let's start off with good news from **Jill Dinneen**, who is on the mend. Jill writes, "I am recovering from transplant surgery due to Crohn's disease" and she's grateful for all the good wishes she has received from many members of our class. Jill is living near the transplant hospital in Indianapolis during her recovery, but hopes to be back on her feet in time for our next reunion. Get well soon, Jill! • Many members of our class have been on the move: **Linda Greene Ortwein** and her husband are now living in Bangkok, where she works at the Patana School. During a month's sojourn in the United States this past summer, Linda got together with **Carey Field Guth**, **Betsy Bradley Coughlan**, **Sue McFarland Moynahan**, **Lucy Newell Hancock**, **Beezie Johnson Handy**, and **Liz Tayntor Gowell** for their annual Midd mini-reunion! • **Gabrielle Keller** notes, "**Debby Kittay-Parker** and **Stephanie Connors Stewart** were the first friends to see my new Midtown West NYC digs between my summer trips to India and Nepal and an intensive two-week Italian course in Lucca." Gaby claims that her globetrotting was an attempt to "keep up with **Diane Nastri**," who spent part of the summer in South America. • **Diane** writes, "In August I was in Argentina, skiing with **Kimberly Wiehl**." They had a wonderful weekend sightseeing in Buenos Aires and then in Patagonia, where Diane was loving using her Spanish. (Skiing video on our class Facebook page!) • **Stephanie Stewart** was heading to Japan at the end of August to visit son Conor Stewart '09, who is a Captain in the Marine Corps currently stationed in Okinawa. • **Debby Kittay-Parker** notes, "Raising my five-year-old grandson has stunted my world-travel plans and there is no way to keep up with Gaby and Stephanie." Debby is a social worker at N.Y. Presbyterian Hospital in Westchester. She has five cats (don't ask) and a dog. "I'm about to be a kindergarten 'mom' for the fourth time—need I say more? Life is good." • Speaking of grandchildren, **Peggy Baldwin Briggs** is pleased to report she has become a grandmother for the first time, welcoming Clark Kieffer Briggs, who was born on February 20 to Tucker Briggs '06 and Holly Hess. Peggy has also issued an invitation to "all who are interested to the Mad River Valley for skiing." • Speaking of skiing, **Ellen Hall Adams** writes, "We have been in Park City, Utah, for eight years now, where I have worked as the program director for the National Ability Center, and my husband has headed up the winter sports division for Salomon and Atomic in North America. After a 12-month hiatus from employment, during which I successfully recharged my batteries in the mountains of Utah, I am returning to work. The opportunity to work with the sport education team at the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Assoc. (USSA) is just too tempting! I am excited to combine my life's experience as an athlete, coach, parent, and nonprofit leader in the role of club development manager. USSA is the parent organization of the U.S. Ski Team, U.S. Snowboarding, and U.S. Freeskiing, and I look forward to traveling the country, working with over 350 clubs as they continue to develop successful programs and athletes. Anyone wanting to visit, we always have room!" Congratulations! • **Wendy King Bellows** has moved, too: "Husband Fred and I have moved from Phoenix to Payson, a town of 16,000, still in Arizona, but at about 5,000 feet instead of 1,000 and surrounded by Forest Service lands." They are both looking forward to enjoying four relatively mild seasons. • Academy Award-winning producer **Pamela Tanner Boll** has directed a new movie, *A Small Good Thing,* which follows a diverse group of people who "share a deep desire to have more meaning in their lives, a closer bond with their families and communities, and a connection to themselves and the natural world." **Brad Allen** attended a screening at Dana Auditorium and encourages everyone to see it, noting that the movie is a "wonderful presentation on choosing to live a more mindful, community-oriented, less consumer-driven lifestyle." • Please send more news and check out our class Facebook page for photos, videos, and good cheer. • Finally, two very sad notes. **Sharon Rudnick** writes of the death of our classmate, **Susan Woodworth**: "Sue passed away on September 3 from cancer. After graduating from Middlebury, Sue spent her life in ministry. She is survived by her husband, Bob Kersten, children Chelsea and Gideon Frisbee, grandson Wyatt, her parents, her brothers Greg '81 and Gordon '84, her former husband, classmate **Ron Frisbee**, and a universe of friends." • On our class Facebook page, **Susan Tracy Moore** informed us of the death of **Midelle "Delle" Moore**. Delle died at home on October 29 after a brief illness. After graduating from Middlebury, she spent much of her adult life as a licensed mental health clinician. Delle is survived by wife Susan O'Brien, children Lindsay, Peter, and Thomas Cassel, stepchildren Caitlyn and James O'Brien, and four siblings. Our class extends its deepest sympathy to all. Obits for both will appear in a later issue.

—Class Correspondents: David Jaffray (djaffray@mchsi.com); Anne Rowell Noble (annenoblemail@aol.com).

79 **Diane Olinger Robinson** writes, "Ben and I moved to Bluffton, S.C., near Hilton Head, in January 2016. We are enjoying an active retired lifestyle and discovering all that this coastal area has to offer. I work for ITAGroup as a travel director; it's a wonderful part-time opportunity to travel a few weeks a year and keep connected to the hospitality industry. Our daughter Mallory and husband Michael live in Fort Worth. She is a special education teacher in the Grapevine school district and he works in labor relations for BNSF Railway. They have a son, Patrick. Our daughter Hilary resides in Denver and is a CPA auditor for a regional accounting firm. If anyone ventures our way, be sure to let us know." • **Rich Morris** and wife Lauren were in Middlebury in September dropping off son Daniel, Class of 2020. Daniel lives in Battell South, now part of Wonnacott Commons, named for Dean Erica Wonnacott, whom many of us remember fondly. • Missy DeSalvo Berg '78 shares these words in remembrance of her dearest friend and confidante, **Kathleen McNamee,** who passed away last April: "Aside from all her academic, athletic, and professional accomplishments (of which there were many), Kathy McNamee was a super human being. People who knew her will remember her as

a brilliant, kind, and funny girl with a beaming smile. I knew her as a deeply spiritual person who practiced kindness and tolerance with every breath. She was the epitome of grace and her heart was pure. Even while suffering, she had a ready ear and kind words for others. We have lost a great Middlebury alumna." • **Marion Taylor** reports from Boulder, Colo., that she founded a gap-year consulting business called Taylor the Gap over five years ago. She works with a wide spectrum of clients ranging from recent high school graduates to adults entering retirement. In an effort to "walk the walk," coupled with the fact that all four children have flown the nest, Marion has tested out two programs in Guatemala and Ecuador in an effort to learn Spanish and volunteer with young children, as well as in Rwanda and Tanzania working with women's co-ops. She planned to return to Uganda in November to work on a women's empowerment project called the Street Business School model, which will be replicated globally by the year 2030. Thanks to Professor John Spencer and his African history course during her freshman year, she developed a deep-seated love for Africa. • **David Colbert** recently showed his geometric sculpture at the Five Points Gallery in Torrington, Conn. He was delighted to be joined at the opening by Dean '81 and **Deb Himmelfarb Applefield**. Dave writes, "I have become rooted in a small town in northwest Connecticut. Besides multigenerational family life and being a full-time sculptor, I teach tai chi, am chairman of the local planning and zoning commission, and still love camping!" • We'd love to hear from more of our classmates. Send us your news!

—Class Correspondents: Debbie Fish Butler (midd79dbutler@gmail.com); Alice Lee Openshaw (alice.openshaw@gmail.com).

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Please send us your news! We'd love to hear from you!

—Class Correspondents: Anne Cowherd (annie.cowherd@att.net); Robin Howe (robinhowe.art@gmail.com); Annie Hartmann Philbrick (chapin802@gmail.com).

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Please send me your news! I'd love to hear from you!

—Class Correspondent: Carolyn Bausch (cbausch@verizon.net).

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REUNION CLASS **Alison McGhee** writes, "I'm so happy to report that *Never Coming Back,* my first novel for adults in several years, will be published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in October 2017. *Never Coming Back* stars Clara Winter (the star of my previous novel *Shadow Baby*), who is now 32 and summoned home to the remote Adirondacks to help care for her mother, Tamar, who has been diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's. The publisher describes the novel thusly: '*Never Coming Back* is an urgent, poignant story of a mother and daughter seeking connection at the very moment they seem to be slipping away from each other. With great tenderness, humor, and humanity, Alison McGhee tells the story of a young woman finding her way in life, determined to know her mother—and by extension herself—before it's too late.'" • **Mary Beth Litster Cockerham** reports, "Like many of my fellow '82ers, I joined the ranks of the tuition-free adults as my daughter graduated from Claremont McKenna in May. Happy to report both kids are gainfully employed and my tuition budget-line item has been redirected to travel! I've enjoyed hiking in Yosemite (May) and Acadia (October) and biking in Belgium and Holland (August). I remain full-time employed to give me something to do between excursions!" • **Caleb Rick** (and several Midd alums he's working with) is developing a manufacturing company that converts waste-stream film plastic (LDPE) into a durable, value-added material, which is formed into a variety of products. They are currently importing and selling Ekopolimer with plans to build and headquarter North American expansion in Middlebury on rail accessible land owned by the College. "The Middlebury Business Development Fund, an economic development partnership of the town and College, has been tremendous. Their support has enabled us to move forward with a target to begin production in the second half of 2018." • **Polly Mitchell Ranson** spent a two-day stopover with **Sheila Creamer Mockett** and husband Bill in Hesperia, Calif. Polly was on her way back home to Pennsylvania from Seoul, South Korea, where she was hosting a convention of doctors working on a cure for hepatitis B. They enjoyed kicking back with a few glasses of wine while Polly got over her jet lag. During the visit they went to Forever Wild exotic animal rescue in Phelan. Forever Wild is a home for rescued exotic cats as well as reptiles and, in fact, milks venom to create antivenins for most of the deadly snakes in the world. All in all, Sheila and Polly had a great visit sending Polly home a bit less jet-lagged and way more relaxed, or so Sheila hopes. • Congratulations to **Cindee Lacasse** who has joined MassHousing as the director of rental business development, where she will oversee rental lending product development, loan origination, and approvals for the agency's multifamily lending operations. Cindee will oversee MassHousing's efforts to develop and strengthen business relationships with multifamily developers and owners and ensure that loan proposals move seamlessly through the approval, underwriting, and closing process. She is currently co-chair of the Board of the Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership and a member of the Healthy Neighborhoods Equity Fund Advisory Board. She has served on the Investment Committee of the Massachusetts Life Insurance Community Investment Initiative, and the Editorial Advisory Boards of *Affordable Housing Finance* magazine and the *Housing and Development Reporter* newsletter. She received a leadership service award from the Affordable Housing Investors Council in 2013, where she served as a longstanding board member and president. Cindee lives in Newton, Mass., with husband Sam Ogden, who is a commercial photographer, and two kids, who are in college (but unfortunately neither at Middlebury!). • What do the following things have in common? *Time Magazine* Man of the Year was the computer, the album *Thriller* was released, the Weather Channel was launched on cable TV, Epcot opened at Walt Disney World and—our class graduated from Midd! Mark your calendar and save the date! Middlebury Reunion Weekend is June 9–11. Come celebrate our 35th reunion! Hope to see you all there!

—Class Correspondents: Wendy Behringer Nelson (gomomgo@bellsouth.net); Caleb Rick (crick@northcommon.com).

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While I (**Allison**) am packing my boys off to first grade every day and routinely sustaining Lego injuries, **Julie Greer Kelly** reports that she has retired after 32 years of work in IT at Liberty Mutual. She was hoping to spend a few months in Naples, Fla., this winter and looking forward to being able to spend more time with their three grandkids when they return to New Hampshire in the spring. • Congrats to **Erik Greenberg Anjou** who is now married to "the wonderful" Alla Glagola of Saint Petersburg, Russia. Alla is an art expert at the Hermitage Museum and she and her son, Gosha, recently relocated to New York. • **John Nelson** and Angela Lomanto are in their second year running Brook Farm Inn (brookfarm.com) in Lenox, Mass. He wants us to come visit! In October, John began serving as pastor of Church on the Hill, also in Lenox: a small congregation with a big heart. He and his family are thoroughly enjoying the Berkshires and are relieved to be living in one place, instead of two. • **Scott Bogan**, **Steve Kuhn**, and **Patrice Binaisa** all popped up on email long enough to say hi. **Drew Schembre** promises to keep in better touch, while also wondering if he is turning into one of those grumpy old people we used to see at reunions. (You're not—at least not yet, but you better keep in better touch!) From the sounds of it, he is reading good literature (*Prudence* by Jonathan Franzen and *The Narrow Road to the Deep North* by Richard Flanagan) and watching bad TV (*Breaking Bad,* which his wife refuses to watch with him, and *Black Mirror*). • **Lise Markl Lingo** has moved to southeastern Mexico! She says to google "Laguna Bacalar" and click on Images to see why, then check out BacalarBoatandBoard.com to see what. We did both of those things and WOW! Definitely living the life while running a water sports company. It looks beautiful and fun! Check it out for yourself. • **Jackie Vanacek** is semiretired from the corporate tech world but is keeping busy with advising, teaching, and coaching. She recently did a tandem skydive with two Navy

Seals from the U.S. Navy Parachute Team. She writes, "Those guys are incredible! In an amazing twist of fate, I ended up advising Navy's senior technology leaders about start-ups in Silicon Valley. I really enjoy helping the troops and this work was very gratifying. I continue to coach some students and start-ups in the EU and China, having also been appointed a visiting professor in China. Not sure what's next in 2017. I had lots of fun visiting with **Katherine Carlson** in Vermont on a whim, and I keep in touch with **Sue Bayler Kotila** and **Betsy Sprague Shields**." • **Joe Dooley** is an anesthesiologist and critical care medicine physician at the University of Rochester in New York. He's married to a Williams graduate and has three children. "My oldest, Bryan, graduated from Middlebury in 2012. He's a medical student at Cornell in NYC. My son, Kevin, is a sophomore at Amherst. My daughter, Katie, is a senior in high school. She's applying to Middlebury along with a bunch of other places. Since you asked, my favorite read of 2016 was *The Martian*." • A final note. Many of you wrote in about personal sadnesses that you didn't want included in the notes. It seems like we are all starting to experience more losses and to feel them more acutely. This, coupled with a more turbulent world, is a bit unsettling. For me personally (**Allison**), it's a reminder to savor the time we have with those we love and to do what we can to make the world an easier place. It also makes me yearn for the simpler times of our college days and grateful for Midd and the relationships we forged there. Old friends (by which I mean long-standing—we can't yet be old) and the people who knew us then truly are special.

—Class Correspondents: Allison Burroughs (adburroughs@gmail.com); Victoria Seiden Gonin (victoriagonin@gmail.com).

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We are still looking for a couple of classmates to take over as correspondents. It's a fun way to stay in touch with classmates!

—Class Correspondents: Elizabeth Eppes Winton (ewinton@mac.com); Andrew Zehner (andrewzehner@gmail.com).

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Skip '83 and **Beth Dorion Wyer** hosted a Class of 1985 Midd mini-reunion at their home in Deephaven, Minn., last summer. **Ginny Chapman Cochran**, **Lindsey Kalat Dunleavy**, and **Joslin Fields** all drifted in from various parts of the nation to hang by the pool, swim, laugh, and hula-hoop. They had a lovely time catching up and enjoyed slipping back to the early '80s with silly tales and memories of days gone by. They all agreed that life was sure simpler before spouses and children. Skip took the Midd 1985 girls on a boat ride on Lake Minnetonka and they motored down memory lane as he navigated past childhood homes and extended family properties. According to Joslin, "It was a perfect night. Most of all, it was fun to enjoy being with friends whom I haven't seen nearly enough of over the years. We will be making up for lost time hereafter." Thank you, Joslin, for sharing these wonderful images with us! • To the rest of our 1985 classmates, please keep us posted with your adventures, triumphs, and challenges. You can reach the Lohmann twins at the addresses below. We are also discoverable on Facebook at Denah Toupin and Ruth Davis. Hope to hear from many of you soon!

—Class Correspondents: Ruth Lohmann Davis (ruth.davis63@gmail.com); Denah Lohmann Toupin (denaht@comcast.net).

86

Ann McCollum graduated from the Univ. of New Mexico School of Law, took and passed the bar (with a break from studying to attend our 30th!), and is now an attorney with Matthews Fox in Santa Fe, practicing education law. Congratulations, Ann. • **Michael Green** saw **Jake Weber** in the Netflix series *Hell on Wheels*. Jake appears in season four as the nefarious carpetbagger John Campbell. • **Julie Morris Ogden** and husband Steve are excited to be Middlebury parents! Their son Malcolm started in September in the Class of '20. • **Sarah Malm** is in Washington, D.C., wrapping up her time with the Obama administration. She says, "It has been an amazing experience!" • **Kirk Fleischer** reports that after 21 years out West, he has relocated back to New York City for a new job. Kirk is looking forward to seeing old Middlebury friends with a little more frequency. • **Sharon Lesser Maguire**'s short film, *Drug Mule*, got accepted into the second annual Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival, which was a huge success drawing many participants. • **Michael Kinnealey** is a grandfather and writes, "Mary Katherine Kinnealey was born on September 28, and all parents and grandparents are faring well!"

—Class Correspondent: Heather Pierce Post (heatherdpierce@gmail.com).

87

REUNION CLASS On his epic California-to-Tierra-del-Fuego bike trip, at press time **Pat Callahan** was pedaling south from a snow-capped Bariloche, Argentina. • **Tim Weed** has a new book coming out in April 2017, a collection of short stories entitled *A Field Guide to Murder and Fly Fishing*, which is available for preorder on Amazon. "Also," says Tim, "I'm continuing to run high-quality, affordable, customized travel programs in Cuba. Several Midd Class of '87 members have already taken advantage!" • "I retired from full-time teaching this past year, which was great," writes **Ashley Ransom**. "My father passed away, so it was good to see him beforehand and have some quality time. I'm loving the Bay Area and just yesterday adopted a new rescue puppy, so we will be busy. Hoping to get to reunion in June." • **MaryClare Pellett** is the new Math Department chairperson at Holy Trinity High School in Hicksville, N.Y. Congratulations, MaryClare! • **John Woolley** writes, "New gig for me as director of wealth management at the Partners Group in Portland, Ore., where I've lived since 1992—well before everyone else discovered our food carts, micro-roasted coffee, and no-bug/no-humidity summers. Last of my four kids headed to college in the fall, leaving more time to fly-fish for steelhead. (The tug is the drug!) I continue to do mission work each Christmas, with the last few years involving the family locally with the Dept. of Human Services adoption and foster care programs. Other years it's been further afield in places like the Tenderloin district in San Francisco, the east side of Tijuana, and Rwanda." • We caught **John Bohan**'s byline recently on Forbes.com, in a piece on social-media influencers entitled "There's Nothing Micro about the Power of Micro-Influencers." John lives in Manhattan Beach, Calif., and is founder and CEO of Socialtyze, a Los Angeles-based social-media and influencer marketing company. • **Scott Sunbury** and **Don Hindman** got together in Colorado this past summer, where they hiked Eldorado Canyon. • **Tom Funk** joined the board at Danforth Pewter, the landmark business founded in Middlebury in 1975 by Judi and Fred Danforth '72. Danforth Pewter is led by CEO **Bram Kleppner**.

—Class Correspondents: Tom Funk (tomfunk@gmail.com); Elizabeth Ryan O'Brien (obrien@bigwhoop.com).

88

Dina Wolkoff and Galen Hoskin '87 were married on May 10, 2016, in Big Sur, Calif. They live in Piedmont, Calif. • **Liz Nightingale** spent the summer in Washington, D.C., in transit between Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where she and her husband, Drew, spent the last three years, and Lilongwe, Malawi, where they will be for the next three years. Drew is a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S.

Middlebury Alumni Association

2017 NOMINATIONS

Alumni Trustee

Elizabeth "Bessie" Cromwell Speers '86

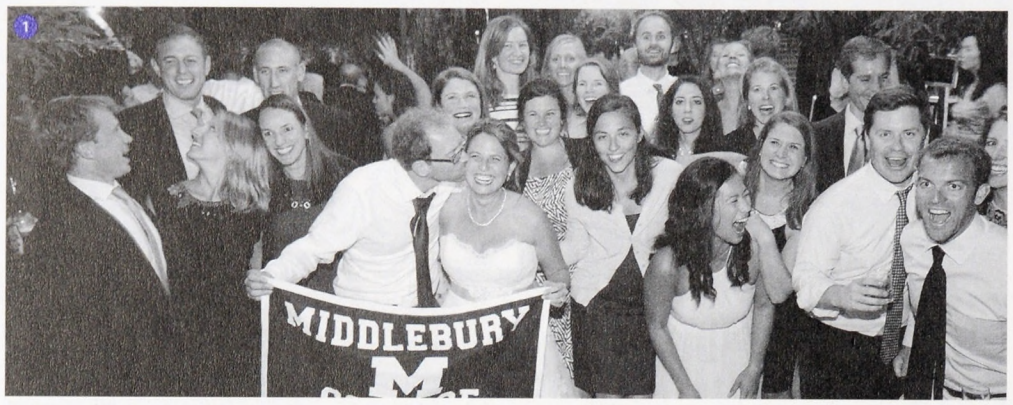
The full slate of nominees for the term of office beginning July 1, 2017, will be available for viewing on March 1, 2017, and voting on April 1, 2017. The deadline for voting is April 30, 2017. Please vote at **go.middlebury.edu/maa**.

To appear in the online spring ballot, additional nominations must be received by **March 1, 2017**. These nominations must include a signed letter of acceptance, updated biographical information, a photo, and 200 alumni signatures endorsing your nomination.

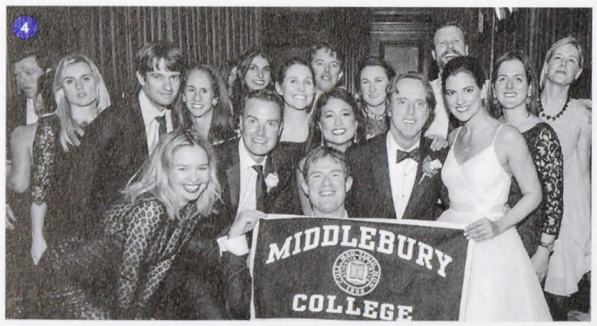
For a paper ballot, more information, or to submit nominees, please contact Alumni Office, 700 Exchange Street, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753 or email us at alumni@middlebury.edu.

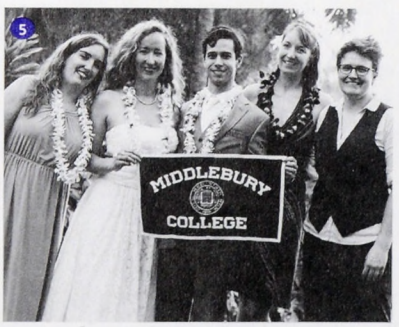
SAVE THE DATE

Reunion 2017 will be June 9–11!



1 On October 11, 2015, Rachel Durfee '06 married Jake Goldfield at Vine Hill House in Sebastopol, Calif. Many Middlebury friends traveled from far and wide to celebrate (and have an epic dance party that rivaled our college days): (all '06 unless noted) David Coriell, Grace Kronenberg Coriell, Alexandra Ragan "CC" Schnapp, the newlyweds, Francesca Filippelli Carson, Jamie Wong Larson, Tara Micherone Gestrich, Clark Smith, Jon Larson, (second row) Josh Carson, Gary Roosa, Jess Van Wagenen O'Rielly, Jess Hallett, Molly Jepsen, Rachel Winter, Elena Kennedy, Bradley Michalchuk, Amy McCowan Smith '08, (third row) Jamie Fey, Kim Perez Hults, Pat Philips, and Suvi Neukam '07. 2 In a traditional Jewish service at the bride's synagogue, Arielle Weisman '07 and Ronan Depaz were married in Newton, Mass., on April 17, 2016. Friends celebrated with the couple at a reception at Estragón Tapas Bar in Boston: (all '07 unless noted) Stephanie Kane, Stephanie Enemark, Iulia Sprinceana, the newlyweds, Rachel Rosenfeld, and Nina Robinson '05. 3 Tim Hollander '65 sent a photo of Middlebury folks at the Montana High School graduation of his granddaughter, Lila Rickenbaugh: Rob Apple '70, Susan Apple '65, Lisa Hollander Rickenbaugh '89, Alison Garnsey '20, Tim Hollander '65, Amanda Tompkins Apple '04, and Colin Apple '04 with Callum.





4 At the Union Club in Cleveland, Ohio, Nora Dietsch '03 married Brian Barry on November 21, 2015, with many Middlebury friends helping them celebrate: (all '03 unless noted) (kneeling) Angus Birchall, (second row) Marissa Anshutz Hermer, Christopher Lord '02, Tessa Horst Pickard, the newlyweds, (third row) Joy Semple Sanchez-Mejorada, Peter Barber '01, Meg Roach Booth '02, Liz Siegel '05, Whitney MacDonald Gough, Christopher Daniels, Kirsten Sichler Webb '02, Brian Ferry '02, Lisa Pilkington Brown, and Anne Rana Aberle. 5 On January 27, 2016, Elizabeth Zane '06 married Anthony Cretara in Maui, Hawaii, with friends Laura Seidel '06, Devon Parish '05, and Maria Dickinson '07 attending.

Department of State. This summer, Liz enjoyed catching up with her Midd friends in Washington, D.C., including **Claire Gwatkin Jones**, **Paula Ricciardelli Sumberg**, **Virginia White**, and **Diana Stuart Sinton** (who was in town visiting family). Liz welcomes visitors to Malawi! • Speaking of **Claire Gwatkin Jones**, she was recently promoted to vice president of strategic communications at the National Geographic Society. • **Chris** and **Diana Sinton** have finally stopped moving around the U.S. and have settled firmly into Ithaca, N.Y. Chris is now a tenured faculty member in the Dept. of Environmental Studies and Sciences at Ithaca College, their sole geologist on campus. Diana is the executive director of the University Consortium for Geographic Information Science (UCGIS), a nonprofit organization that supports GIS-related research and teaching in higher education, and she teaches GIS at Cornell as well. Daughter Emily is a senior at Wheaton College (Mass.), son Eric is a freshman at Tufts, and Julia will begin Middlebury in February. Three college tuitions! Woo-hoo! If you find yourselves taking your kids on a college tour of central New York, please look them up and stop by!

—Class Correspondents: Anya Puri Brunnick (abrunnick@gmail.com); Claire Gwatkin Jones (gwatkojones@gmail.com).

89

Please send me your news! I'd love to hear from you!

—Class Correspondent: Melanie Friedlander (surgerygirl@verizon.net).

90

Exciting news from **EJ Kavounas!** EJ left Credit Suisse as a managing director last year after 15 years in investment banking to fulfill a lifelong passion and launch a new online streaming service dedicated to science fiction, called Recursor.TV. EJ writes, "I have two partners who are film and television producers. In addition to curating existing programs, we produce an original series called *Nina_Unlocked*, starring a talented YouTube actor named Lana McKissack as an android who interviews real guests." Please check out their YouTube channel, @recursortv on Twitter, Facebook, or www.recursor.tv.

—Class Correspondents: Doug Meyer (pdougm@aol.com); Elizabeth Toder (eatoder@gmail.com).

91

Marc Alcindor writes, "I'm still president of Fundraising.com (a division of the Southwestern home office based in Nashville). My daughter is now six years old and I have a son 15 months old! I still coach a PeeWee AAA hockey team and I still live and work in Montreal, Canada!" • The musical event of the season occurred last June, when members of a variety of Midd bands from the late '80s got their bands back together for the 25th reunion and attempted to make quality music. Musicians

included **Matt Bonner**, **Rod Prudencio**, **Josh Sarkis**, **Johannes Ernharth**, **Chris Adshead**, **Pat Berry**, **Nick Warendorf**, **Bryan Thomas**, **Andrew Resnik**, **Jonathan Nolde**, **Jim Phillips**, and several others. • **Robin Wheeler Azqueta** writes, "It was wonderful to see everybody at our 25th reunion, and it was particularly fun to catch up with **Mariette Johnson Wharton**, **Alden Whittaker**, **Dawn Blalock**, **Becky Castle**, and **Dana Cronin Ostermiller** and so many other friends and their families. Our visit the final night at Mr. Up's was particularly poignant! I brought my 10-year-old son, Bertie. I'm living in West Palm Beach, Fla., with my husband and sons Teo (6) and Bertie. I continue to consult for marketing projects and run a small family business. I'm active on several charity boards, including a charter high school that I helped to found 15 years ago, Everglades Preparatory Academy, in the low-income town of Pahokee in the Glades area, and the Burton K. Wheeler Center for Public Policy at Montana State Univ. in Bozeman. My husband and I celebrated our 15th wedding anniversary in August with an incredible trip all around Europe, in the Alps and Mediterranean regions, with our sons. I look forward to keeping in touch with my classmates!" • **Dana MacGrath** recently joined the law firm Sidley Austin, where she is a member of their international arbitration practice in the firm's New York office. In July, Dana joined the board of directors of ArbitralWomen, a nonprofit organization that focuses on promoting and mentoring women in the field of international dispute resolution. She is also chair of the Arbitration Committee of the NYC Bar Assoc. In addition to practicing law, Dana is an adjunct professor at Brooklyn Law School, where she teaches a seminar on international commercial arbitration and coaches the school's Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot team that competes in Vienna each spring. She lives with her husband and two sons in Brooklyn Heights. • **Kristen Gustavson** writes, "**Jim Phillips** and I got married over a year ago on June 20, 2015, at the Fells in Newbury, N.H." **Jim** adds, "Kristen relocated to Eau Claire, Wis., and has a rapidly growing counseling practice. We moved into a big, funky, old house near the UW-EC campus, where I have worked for the past 19 years." • **Marc Bujold** was in Stockholm for business and spent an evening at the home of his freshman-year neighbor, **Phil McCrea**. • **Dawn Dispenza Ray** writes, "I moved this past year from Raleigh to the other side of North Carolina near Asheville with husband Paul and son Mason. We had long loved the mountain area (reminds me of Vermont) and Paul took a job in Brevard, which allowed us to move. I work now for RISC Networks, selling an analytics software for companies moving to the cloud. Our son is 11 and started sixth grade at a new school. We love the slower pace of life, the white squirrels that Brevard is known for, and even the black bears. I'm on Facebook and would love to hear from classmates." • **Victoria Fischer Luksch** promises that as soon as she accomplishes something, she'll be sure to let us know! • **Mariette Wharton** has decided to share her volunteer efforts with other College activities so won't be working as a correspondent. You can send news to the email address below!

—Class Correspondent: Andrew Resnik (resnikandrew@gmail.com).

92

REUNION CLASS **Bill McDavitt** writes that he, **Jon Loewald**, **J.J. Gilmartin**, **Mike Summersgill**, **Dave Freeland**, **Buddy Heller**, **Justin Ayers**, and **Fred Lawrence**, along with some non-Middies, have been in a fantasy football league for a decade, and he finds it a bit hard to believe that they've stuck this out for 10 years. While perhaps a bit embarrassing to admit playing this somewhat ridiculous game, Bill says, "The beauty of the league is that it's a chance for all of us to keep tabs on each other and stay in touch. Just a few weeks ago, during our draft, I was able to see Dave, his two beautiful young kids, and Buddy and his wonderful children, on-screen while using an Internet conference service. The banter at times is pretty hilarious. I've had many an unexpected laugh with some of the witty quips these guys develop." • From **Ben Niles** we heard, "After nearly a decade of teaching in the NYC public school system, I moved with my partner, Jean, and our children Beatrice (6) and Otis (4) to Beacon, N.Y., in the Hudson Valley. I am currently the director of the Randolph School in Wappingers Falls, N.Y., which is a wonderful small, progressive pre-K and elementary school." • **Mo Speidell Bonner** shortened her commute considerably when she left Dell Computer to join Akamai Technologies as their chief marketing officer and senior VP. Mo will lead Akamai's corporate marketing and communications initiatives, including all facets of the Akamai brand, as well as the company's digital marketing strategy and go-to-market programs. • On May 19 **Matt Slaughter** and wife Lindsay (Sewanee '02) celebrated the birth of Charlotte Rebecca Slaughter. They are now experiencing being parents. • From **Piper Lounsbury Stover** we hear that she and Jim '90 have been in Beijing for the past five years. Piper has been heading the corporate office in China for United Technologies and the couple's two girls are now fluent after Midd-style immersion in a local Beijing school for a few years. They finally repatriated this January and look forward to becoming reconnected with Midd again. • **Audrey Waters** writes, "I still enjoy being director of public relations for a nonprofit health system in NYC. Several years ago I caught up with **Colin Tan** in Malaysia and enjoyed visiting with him and his family." • **Cynthia Gabriel** and **Felix Paulick** are still living in Ann Arbor, Mich., with their children, Sylvia (15), Calvin (12), and Anju (7). They keep busy with dance, soccer, baseball, and basketball. **Ritu Verma** visited from Mumbai and they've also seen **Helen McCabe** a few times in Geneva, N.Y. Wherever they travel, they stop at skate parks for their boys to ride their scooters and RipStiks. It's a great way to see America! Cynthia is active in childbirth research (African American health disparities and the high cesarean rate in Brazil) and Felix has a busy psychotherapy private practice. • **Jonathan Freirich** and Ginny Reel '94 moved with their kids, Jude (9) and Sadie (3), to Buffalo, N.Y., where Jonathan accepted the position of rabbi at Temple Beth Zion, the largest synagogue in western New York and one of the oldest Reform Synagogues in the country. He is thrilled to be a New Yorker again and back within reasonable driving distance of Midd. Jonathan recently chatted with **Julian Bernick**, Carlos Brown '96, and Lawrence DeVoe '89, and their respective better halves when Julian and spouse Jennifer Linde visited NYC. • **Kingman Gordon** writes, "I've enjoyed catching up with old friends over the past few months. This past summer, my family spent a long weekend north of San Francisco with **Sara Weale** and **John Rudge** and their kids, as well as **Drew Meyers** and his family. I also got the chance to see **Tristram Perkins** and **Charlie Watson** in New York. Everyone seems to be well and on the same wild parental ride." • **Brett Hanscom** writes, "I have just moved to Barcelona with my wife and three children for a year of adventure and language learning. Although I struggle to recall the Spanish grammar I learned while at Middlebury, there is hope. Drop us a line if you are in Spain and want to see the sights of Catalonia (bretthanscom@gmail.com)." • Believe it or not, our 25th reunion's this June! **Dave Boyle** and **Leslie Cone Pagnotta** are working on lots of fun activities, but it's only great if ALL OF YOU make plans to come back to Midd! So call your friends, text, FB, blackmail with photos from freshman year—whatever it takes, just rally the troops and get ready to spend time with some of your best friends and reconnect with others who may surprise you. More details soon!

—Class Correspondents: Bryn Neubert Buck (brynbuck@gmail.com); Christa Hawryluk Collins (christa.collins@alumni.middlebury.edu).

93

Mark Raskopf writes, "I finally made use of a motorcycle IOU I got from my wife as a birthday gift several years ago and picked up a Triumph Tiger 800 xc. I'm living in Darien, Conn., and would love to hook up with anyone in the Greater NYC area for weekend rides. I'd also like to plan some longer multiday rides up into northern Maine, or as far as Quebec, New Brunswick, or Nova Scotia. Come on, you only live once!" • The Case Foundation recently named **Sam Heitner** as senior VP of communications and marketing. He'll lead all communications and marketing strategy for the family foundation of philanthropists Jean and Steve Case. Sam, wife **Vanessa (Guibert)**, and their children live in Potomac, Md.

—Class Correspondent: Maria Diaz (latinawriting@gmail.com).

KATE SWAN MALIN '99.5

1 When this paper booklet came in the mail before my Feb arrival at Middlebury, I pored over it, thinking about what lay ahead and the friends I'd be making. Little did I know that the future father of my children was hidden among all the fresh, smiling faces.

2 In keeping up the strong stats, I married fellow Feb Ian Malin in 2007 on an island in Maine. It has bugged me for 10 years that we never sent in our alum photo to this magazine. We moved to Hong Kong shortly after the wedding, so that's partly to blame. And then there's the fact that someone—who shall remain nameless—looks nude in the photo (he's not!). At any rate, we're in now.

3 After college, I headed to NYC, where I landed my dream job at Christie's auction house in 2005. When we moved to Hong Kong, I transferred to the Christie's Hong Kong office—right at the height of the Asian art market boom.

4 In 2008 we bought a lovely old farmhouse in Ripton. We were still in Asia and didn't know where we'd end up, but we dreamed of a place in Vermont and would snoop on real estate websites from time to time. Our house popped up one day and we realized we had both been to parties in that house!

5 We "ended up" in Portland, Maine, in 2013. These days my time and energy outside the home are spent on some amazing nonprofits. I serve on the board of the Telling Room, a writing center for children and young adults (cofounded by fellow alum Susan Conley '89!). This student poetry anthology was published to celebrate our National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award from the White House.

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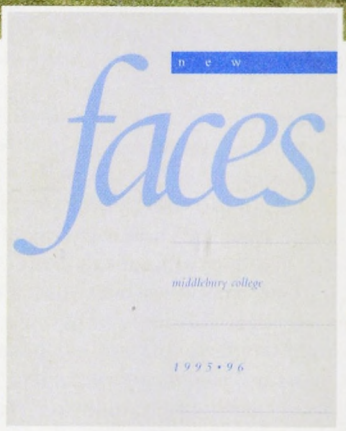

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PHOTOGRAPHS BY TODD BALFOUR

94

Please send us your news! We'd love to hear from you!

—Class Correspondents: Mary Strife Cairns (mcairns@middlebury.edu); Gene Swift (geneswift@gmail.com).

95

Maria Arias-Clarke writes, "This past summer I had the pleasure of reuniting with **Eloise Prickitt** in Cape Cod, whom I hadn't seen since graduation. I live in NYC with my husband of 14 years, a daughter, and a son. I work at New York City's Health and Hospitals as budget director. My daughter now attends Hunter College High School. I have not seen *Hamilton* yet, but apply to the lottery daily with such hopes."

—Class Correspondents: David Diamonon (ddiamonon@yahoo.com); Terra Reilly (sansivera@gmail.com).

96

Hello classmates! Well, we tried "weekend warriors" as a theme and I want to thank and congratulate **Doug** and **Petra Stuhmeier Griffith** and **Casey Kelbaugh** as they were the only ones to share their active lifestyle. Here is Petra's update: "Doug and I have been living in Santa Monica, Calif., since 2003 with our kids—Fritz (8), and Steffi and Resi (6). On weekends we love taking advantage of what Southern California has to offer. We spend summer weekends surfing at the 'Beach Casa' down in Capistrano Beach and most winter weekends skiing in Mammoth, where all three kids are on the ski team." • **Casey Kelbaugh** writes that he lives next to a creek in a little valley with meandering curves and tiny hamlets five minutes from Hunter Mountain in the Catskills. He spends his weekends in every season enjoying the outdoors, making improvements, and documenting everything with his camera @stonyclove on Instagram. • And to reinforce the idea that there are no excuses, **Marty Whited Kowalski** informs that she can't keep up with all the weekend warriors given her fibromyalgia and that exercise used to make her feel sick. But it's part of the treatment, so building up her exercise regimen slowly and steadily has been key to not being trapped by many of the symptoms. Now she aims for one hour every other day as long as she has no flare-ups. Way to go, Marty! • For those of you who were too busy training to send in your update I'll mention that **Martin Lachaine** has created a natural product for pain, inflammation, sports injuries, arthritis, etc. Check out Reeliv5 for more info. • **Erica Steckler** sent this update: "We are enjoying family life in the Boston suburbs with Asher (9), Brenner (7), and Tait (2). I (finally!) finished my PhD in organization studies at Boston College in 2014, spent a postdoc year at Bentley's Hoffman Center for Business Ethics, and am thrilled to be landing at UMass Lowell in the Manning School of Business. I teach organizational change and continue to research organizational authenticity and corporate sustainability. To keep things extra busy, Brad started and runs Drync, an early and popular wine app with business and consumer platforms. We are in southern Vermont (Stratton) most winter weekends and always enjoy connecting with other Midd folks in the New England area, on or off skis!"

—Class Correspondent: Humberto García-Sjögrim (humbertogs@gmail.com).

97

REUNION CLASS **Radhames Nova** writes, "I am excited to share that I recently joined Junior Achievement of Northern New England as president and CEO. Junior Achievement's mission is to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy. My personal journey moving from the Dominican Republic to Lawrence, Mass., as a teenager was deeply impacted by the love and support I received from caring adults invested in my success through youth organizations. It's a privilege to pay it forward by providing thousands of young people the same opportunities through Junior Achievement's programs."

—Class Correspondents: Jennifer Gelb Carbee (jrgelb@yahoo.com); Catherine Mitchell Wieman (cnmitchell99@hotmail.com).

98

Kieran Hixon sent the sad news that wife **Liz Crockett Hixon** died on October 3 after a 15-month battle with brain cancer. In his message he included an article written by the local Canon City, Colo., newspaper about Liz. Despite learning last summer that her tumor had grown, even with continual treatments, she decided to do what she had always done and find a way to help others. She signed up for the Rim to Rim 5K race because the group Ainsley's Angels would be involved. Ainsley's Angels raises awareness of inclusion for individuals with special needs, including providing chariots in races for those who can't run. Liz's intention was to push a chariot in the race but unfortunately, her health deteriorated to the point where she needed to be pushed instead. She was able to participate, nonetheless, with her husband and sister pushing. Thirty-three friends and family joined them, all dressed in Hawaiian shirts. She died two days later but her group decided to make the race an annual event in her honor. • Check out a mini-reunion photo on page 67.

—Class Correspondents: Katie Whittlesey Comstock (katie.comstock@am.jll.com); Nate Johnson (natejohn98@gmail.com).

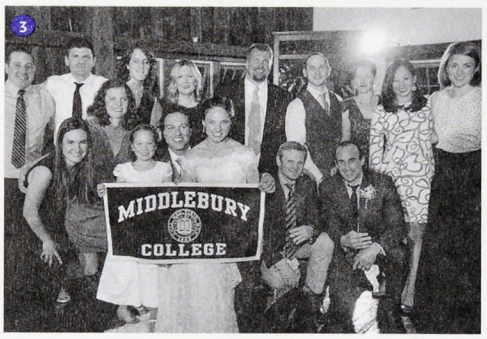
99

Chris Lindstrom and Abbey Haber '01 hosted **Robby** and Kiki Herrick '97 **Levy**, **Brad** and Susie Church '97 **Maxwell**, and **Peter Steinberg** to a brunch in July. Robby and family were heading through Boston and a good time was had by all. • **Anna Tucker Ashton** writes, "I have sad news to share concerning **Kate Skonieczki Falk**. Kate's husband, Gary Falk, died tragically and unexpectedly on Saturday, July 23. He was a professional mountain guide and had just successfully led a group of clients up Grand Teton. On descent, there was a mishap with a rappel line and Gary took a fatal fall. In addition to Kate, Gary is survived by their two young children." • **Ayse Zarakol** was interviewed recently for the website changingturkey.com. She is an assistant professor at the Univ. of Cambridge, England, an official fellow at Emmanuel College, and a senior research associate at the Centre for Rising Powers. She has published in various journals and written *After Defeat: How the East Learned to Live with the West.* She works on East-West relations in the international system, with a focus on stigmatization and social hierarchies; problems of modernity and sovereignty; rising and declining powers; and Turkish politics in a comparative perspective.

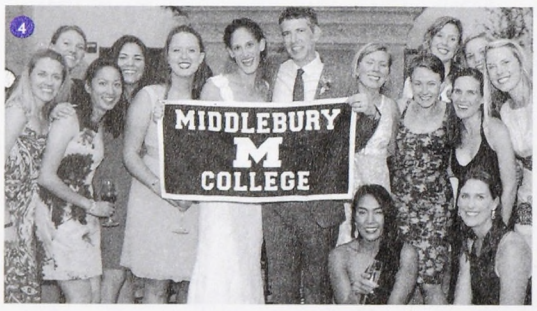
—Class Correspondents: Melissa Pruessing (mpruessing@yahoo.com); Peter Steinberg (captfun99@gmail.com).

00

Happy Winter, friends! The Class of 2000 rounded out 2016 in typical impressive fashion. Congratulations to **Philip Dean Walker**, who published his first book, *At Danceteria and Other Stories* (Squares & Rebels, an LGBT imprint of Handtype Press). Andrew Holleran, author of *Dance from the Dance*, says about the book, "This highly original meditation on the '80s is like nothing else you've read. Dead celebrities are brought back to life in the oddest places: Jackie O in a New York sex club, Princess Di in a London drag bar, Rock Hudson at the White House—plus Sylvester, Halston and Liza, Keith Haring, Madonna, and, best of all, an anonymous narrator who notices that only good-looking guys in New York are getting the new gay cancer. Odd conjunctions, great wit, and the shadow of AIDS make these stories deceptively light and strangely disturbing." If you're as intrigued as I was by that description, you can order your copy on Amazon! • Another member of the Feb class—and former resident of Fiese—**Amanda O'Keefe Murchison** also had some celebrating to do this past fall. She and her American Saddlebred horse, CH Spread the Word (a.k.a. Rev), were crowned Adult Show Pleasure World Champion of Champions at the World's Championship Horse Show in Louisville, Ky., in August. "With hard work, dedication, confidence, and most of all, belief in yourself, dreams come true!" Amanda says. I remember photos in Amanda's Middlebury dorm room of her showing horses, and I'm so proud of Amanda for making this lifelong dream come true and inspired by the tenacity that got her there. • **Rosa Maria Rogers Maloney** is still enjoying family life and an Etsy business on the side. She's now in Amesbury, Mass., with her husband of 11 years and two hilarious children (eight and five years). Finding inspiration when her son lost his first tooth, she launched her new shop My Toothie Pillow, where she sells her own handmade, personalized tooth fairy pillows. You can check it out



1 Ruthie Reinken '10 and Stuart Lindberg '10 were married on August 8, 2015, in Stowe, Vt. Middlebury Class of 2010 friends celebrating with them included Perrin Romine, Tom Newton, Ann Benson, Ian Evans, Laurel Gray, the newlyweds, Will James, Kat Hartley, Kelsey Bakas, Sarah Bryan Hallett, and Dan Langfitt. 2 Lindsay McBride '09 and Brody Berg were married in Middlebury at the Swift House Inn on July 11, 2015. Middlebury friends who attended included Missy Foote, former women's lacrosse coach, Dick Foote '80, Katie Sparkes '09, Caroline Sneath McBride '75, the newlyweds with Eileen, Marnie Rowe Potish '08, Ashley McBride Turner '04, Caitlin Pentifallo '09, Susan Read '09, Julie Ellenberger '09, and Whitney Thomas '07. Missing from photo: Katharine DeLorenzo, field hockey coach. 3 On April 2, 2016, Polly Lynn '05 and Jason Mikula '01 were married at Riverside Farm in Pittsfield, Vt., with many Midd friends in attendance: Nell Wright Acosta '05, Macy Johnson '05, Emery Mikula, the newlyweds, Nick Bobrov '99, Ross Sealfon '99, (second row) Scot Curtin '01, Jack Einhorn '01, Megan James '05, Rachel Joynes '05, Chad Knowles '01, Cam Petke '99, Natasha Kobran '99, Kara Delahunt Bobrov '97, and Laura Matefy Sealfon '01.



4 Dana Weissman '07 married Ben Caldwell in Sonoma, Calif., on October 17, 2015. Middlebury friends joined the celebration: (all '07 unless noted) (kneeling) Maryanne Verzosa '06, Carlie Harrington Hulme, (standing) Rachel Norton, Sara Dewey, Rita Tarnate, Camille Padilla, Rachel Korschun '09, the newlyweds, Meg Weber, Louisa Irving, Maren Schultz Scheiner, Kacie Sherman, Lani Young '08, and Micaela McVary '06. 5 At the Shenorock Shore Club in Rye, N.Y., Matt Ferrer '09 married Julie Wooters on November 21, 2015. Midd friends and family who attended included (all '09 unless noted) Matt Virtue '10, Pete Smith '10, (second row) Bart Witmer '10, Jamie Wheeler, Matt Leonard, Caley O'Niel, Tom Petty, (third row) Chris Sesno, Nick Ferrer '03, Peter Murphy, (fourth row) Jeff Clarke, Colin Morawski '03, Alex Gart, the newlyweds, Pete Britt, Mike Stone, (fifth row) Flint Reilly and Mike Quinn.

at www.mytoothiepillow.com. • **Guy Livesay** sends his regards from Houston, Texas. "Life is good! I've left behind my previous career in the legal field for the exciting world of retailing at Costco!" • I love hearing these updates! An important one that wasn't noted above: While catching up with **Phil** about his book, I also learned that he attended the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference this past summer, where he and another Midd alum taught everyone the proper attire for "Like a Prayer" during Barn dance parties. I hated to inform Phil—and the rest of you—that McCullough dance parties no longer exist. (What a show-stopping moment that was when I got this tragic news from some of my J-term students!) By the time you read this column, I'll be at Middlebury for my third J-term. Following Phil's good lead, perhaps I'll have convinced my students to bring back this important Saturday night tradition. Stay tuned!

—Class Correspondent: Jennifer Crystal (jennifercrystalwriter@gmail.com).

01

Keegan and Martha Crootof '04 **Uhl** welcomed their son Maddox Uhl into the world on August 1. Keegan is a filmmaker in Los Angeles and runs OneStarLeatherGoods.com out of his garage. • **Tamsen Fricke** moved back to Reno, Nev., after 22 years to work for the Starbucks Coffee Carson Valley Roasting Plant. She is looking forward to hiking, biking, and skiing and is very happy to be home. • **Jon Cormier** sent the news that **Gabe Sherman** was the subject of an article in the *New York Times.* The article, titled "Grit vs. Goliath: A Reporter's Dogged Pursuit of Roger Ailes," talks about the six years Gabe has covered Fox News and particularly Roger Ailes, coverage that includes the biography he wrote about Ailes called *The Loudest Voice in the Room.* Google the article and find out why Gabe has needed a bodyguard.

—Class Correspondents: Leslie Fox Arnould (lesliearnould@gmail.com); Zach Bourque (zacharybourque@gmail.com).

02

REUNION CLASS Andrew '00 and **Hilary Johnson Gay** welcomed a baby boy on May 11—Mason Woodward Gay. Midd 2038? • **Sarah Brooks Minardi** and husband Chris recently celebrated their 12th wedding anniversary. Sarah (a.k.a. Brooksie) lives with her husband and two children, Cam (4.5) and Vera (1.5) in East Hampton, N.Y., where she has become one of the Hamptons' elite real estate agents, and a top producer at Saunders & Associates. Looking to buy, sell, or rent in between Southampton and Montauk? Make sure to reach out to Sarah: www.sarahminardi.com. • **Kirsten Sichler Webb** lives in Greenwich, Conn., with husband Tyler. • **Lauren Cacciapaglia Sargent** welcomed baby girl number two, Gretchen Anne Sargent, in September. • **Eniko Simon** writes, "I finished my degree at Teachers College in 2013, after which I taught high school history in Taipei at the American School there. I moved

back home to Budapest with my husband two years ago and I'm at home raising our baby daughter at the moment." • **Regina Grollman Windsor** writes, "Husband Dan (Yale '03) and I purchased our home this year in Boulder, Colo., on Sugarloaf Mountain. We miss the East Coast, but being utterly immersed in nature quells the infrequent forlornness. Sometimes bears attempt to break into our home, which keeps things even more interesting. As I close in on the second year of a 500-hour embodied yoga training with Bo Forbes, I'm fairly immersed in teaching, research, and writing for now. We return to Boston, New York, etc., for visits somewhat frequently. If you are in town, please do let us know and we would be absolutely delighted to meet up. With love, Regina." • In July, **Holly Carlson** married Stephen Johnston in a ceremony at the Mountain Top Inn and Resort in Chittenden, Vt. Celebrating with them were fellow '02 grads **Dave Carlson**, **Kristin Wilson Grimes**, **Andrea Hersh Kannas**, and **Steph Farnham Puchalski**. Holly and Steve live and work in the Boston area, but return north to play as much as possible in Vermont. • In October **Lee Rowland**, an attorney at the American Civil Liberties Union in New York, was on campus to talk about how she became a public interest attorney. She also described her day-to-day work and talked about her efforts to advance the Speech, Privacy, and Technology Project. • Check out a mini-reunion photo on page 67!

—Class Correspondents: Anne Alfano (anne.alfano@gmail.com); Stephen Messinger (s.messing@gmail.com).

03 **Nathan Davis** married Strawn Cathcart (Dartmouth '03) in a ceremony at the Ahwahnee Hotel in Yosemite National Park this past August. Nathan's parents are geologists in California, so Yosemite was a frequent summer destination for his family, and Strawn, an avid rock climber, jumped at the chance to deepen his ties to the climbing mecca. After a week of camping with close friends and family, Arlyn Davich (Bowdoin '03) officiated the wedding, and in attendance were **Lisa Jasinski**, **Marla Weinstein Ostroff**, **Ginny Hunt**, **Ben LaBolt**, **Emily Korot Samuels**, and **Lucie Greene** (exchange student). After the fine Middlebury tradition of Madonna's "Like a Prayer" was observed in dutiful immodesty, the respectfully raucous group carried on, eating ice cream and drinking wine from the Davis family's vineyard under the Perseid meteor shower until park rangers were summoned to make everyone go to bed. The couple honeymooned in Buenos Aires and Patagonia. • **Anna Ostenso Moore** was ordained to the priesthood in the Episcopal Church in June. She and husband David are waiting to adopt. • **Sally Olson**'s Carpenters Tribute Concert has been gaining momentum throughout Vermont and she is excited to bring her show out-of-state this spring. Upcoming performances include Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center in Stowe, Vt., on Saturday, February 25, at 7:30 p.m., the historic Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Reading, Pa., on Saturday, April 15, at 8:00 p.m., and the Triad Theatre in NYC (off-Broadway venue) on Saturday, April 29, at 9:30 p.m. For more information, please visit www.carpenterstributeconcert.com.

—Class Correspondent: Nathan Davis (davis.nm@gmail.com); Janine Knight-Grofe (jknightgrofe@gmail.com).

04 Please send us your news! We'd love to hear from you.

—Class Correspondents: Athenia (Tina) Fischer-Rodney (princess1328@yahoo.com); Drew Pugsley (drew.pugsley@gmail.com).

05 **Lea Davison** sent this update: "I raced to a silver medal in the 2016 World Championships in the Czech Republic, and this was a great result that led up to the Rio 2016 Olympic mountain bike race, where I finished seventh. Middlebury alums Sarah Groff True '04 competed in the triathlon and Megan Guarnier '07 in the road race in Rio. All of us were present at the White House this past fall when the U.S. Olympic team was invited to meet the president and first lady. My sister, Sabra '07, continues to run the nonprofit Little Bellas, a mentoring-on-mountain-bikes program for girls. Els Van Woert '05 also started working for the Little Bellas this past summer. We are thrilled to all unite as a Middlebury force and be working together. Vermont serves as the Little Bellas' headquarters but we have programs in California, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Minnesota, and Georgia. Last year we got over 600 girls on bikes, and next year, we are planning to expand even further. You can follow my racing adventures on Instagram @leaeatsalot and check out littlebellas.com to figure out how to get involved." • **Khairani Borokka** writes, "I have just published my first solo book, *Indigenous Species*, out with Tilted Axis Press. If you read it, I hope you enjoy it and I would love to hear from you with your thoughts! Also, years after writing poetry at Midd, my debut poetry collection, *Rope*, will be published in September 2017 (Nine Arches Press)."

—Class Correspondents: Martha Dutton (martha.dutton@gmail.com); Dena Simmons (dena.simmons@gmail.com).

06 **Price Massey Hall** and husband Cosby (Dartmouth '97) celebrated the birth of their daughter, Mercer Massey Hall, on September 26. Both teach and coach at their alma mater, Norfolk Academy, where Price serves as the director of international programs and the director of the Global Health Fellows Program.

—Class Correspondents: Alex Casnocha (alexander.casnocha@gmail.com); Jack Donaldson (jack.c.donaldson@gmail.com); Jess Van Wagenen O'Rielly (jessorielly@gmail.com).

07 **REUNION CLASS** We had a good response to the poll Carlos sent out. Unfortunately, some people didn't include their names so please let us know who you are! • **Emily Powell** earned her Master of Design in designed objects from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2010. "I've been working for the past two years as product manager and designer for MasterPieces Co., a puzzle, toy, and game company in Tucson, Ariz." • **Arielle Weisman Depaz** gave birth to her first child (a boy!) in early September. She and the baby are doing well. • **Megan Guarnier** was the first American to win the UCI (Union Cycliste Internationale) Women's WorldTour in the final round in Madrid. Her final stop for 2016 was the UCI Road World Championships in Doha, Qatar, in October. • **Zach Maxwell** and **Sally Swallow** were married on June 25. Many Midd grads were present and in their wedding party, and her father (Midd '65) was there too, of course! • **Hayden Thomsen** and Lindsey Reynolds had a beautiful baby girl, Tilia Jean Thomsen, on July 25. • Eleanor Jeanne Armstrong was born in March 2016 to **Anna Spencer** and **Ted Armstrong**. • **Peter** and **Laura Prior Mellen** were very excited to welcome Benjamin Andrew into the world on December 21, 2015. He can't wait to meet his fellow Class of '07 babies at reunion! • Billy '08 and **Rebecca Waters Glavin** welcomed their second child, Eleanor, in February 2016. Elle joined big sister Elizabeth "Izzy" (3) in their home in Charlotte, N.C. • **K.A. Ball** moved to Saratoga Springs, N.Y., with Semih Doken '09 in August. "I have started my job as an assistant professor of chemistry at Skidmore College." • Alex '05 and **Anna Viel Fuller** welcomed baby Henry "Hank" Fuller on March 3, 2016. • **Aly Bourne** and **Andrew Herzik** made the move west to Redondo Beach, Calif., where Andrew is a second-year resident in emergency medicine at LA County-USC hospital. Aly works at USC doing development research and is in the midst of starting a small cake business! • **Kerren McKeeman** writes, "I'm completing four years traveling and performing with Cirque du Soleil! It's been a great pleasure to see many Midd friends along the way. I'm currently touring Europe!" • Congratulations to **Sara Granstrom**, whose family's winery, Lincoln Peak Vineyards, was named "Winery of the Year" at the 2016 International Cold Climate Wine Competition. • And here are our mystery notes! "I'm starting my master's in international law at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London in 2016–2017—a new journey after wrapping up three years in Myanmar as the international legal advisor to the International Commission of Jurists, working on rule of law and international human rights law issues." • "I am now the creative director for SW Basics, a growing natural skincare brand."

—Class Correspondents: Carlos Beato (carlosmbeato@gmail.com); Amanda Cook (Amandahollos@gmail.com).

ClassActs

08

Our classmates continue to impress us with their personal and professional accomplishments: **Amanda Brickell Bellows** is a Bernard and Irene Schwartz Postdoctoral Fellow in New York City. She's spending the 2016–2017 academic year doing research for her book about comparative slavery at the New York Historical Society and teaching undergraduates at the Eugene Lang College for Liberal Arts at the New School. • Along with several partners, **Amanda Smith Spatola** recently launched Lion Academy Tutors, offering specialized test preparation and tutoring. Most of the company's clients are private schools and boarding schools in the NYC and Fairfield County areas. In the true nature of a start-up, Amanda's role is sort of a mixture of sales, client services, marketing, and anything else that requires attention. Go, Amanda! • **Patch Culbertson** is a director of A&R at Republic Records in NYC. He received the RIAA Diamond Award in recognition of Florida Georgia Line's "Cruise," exceeding 10 million singles. It is the ninth best-selling single in U.S. history! • **Joachim Skyaasen** and **Olivia Kenna** were married in San Francisco, Calif., on August 8, 2015. They were delighted to be joined by many close friends from Middlebury. (See page 75 for a photo!) • **Rowan Morris** married Britta Towle on June 17 at the Wolffer Estate Vineyard in Sagaponack, N.Y. He is a VP at Jefferies. • Since the fall of 2014 when she left Sotheby's to work the wine harvest in Tuscany and on Mt. Etna in Sicily, **Sarah Bray** has been representing the wines of Tenuta di Trinoro and Passopisciaro to wine collectors and the wine trade across the U.S. (putting her Italian studies to good use!). She also consults for Iron Horse Vineyards of Sonoma Valley and is a partner in Sherryfest, an events platform focused on the education of this Spanish fine wine category. She is based in New York but travels frequently to Italy and across the U.S. • In September, **Ryan Tauriainen** was selected as one of America's Forty Under 40 by the Association Forum and USAE. The award honors 40 young professionals making a strong mark in the association and nonprofit sectors. • **Sara McGowen Audet** and husband Nathan welcomed daughter Margo on June 23 at Porter in Middlebury. Congratulations! • If you enjoy reading about your classmates in this column, make sure to drop us a line with an update to keep the magic alive—we love hearing from you!

—Class Correspondents: Michelle Cady (michelle.elizabeth.cady@gmail.com); Laura Lee Mittelman (laurawhitneylee@gmail.com).

09

Michael McCormick and **Kelsey Nelson** were married in Chicago on July 16. Many Middlebury friends helped them celebrate, and at some point they realized that exactly half of the 22 people seated at their head table lived in Stewart with them during freshman year. • Also on July 16, **Rob Palladino** married Hope Sullivant in Essex, Vt. They live in Manhattan, where Rob works as a currency trader at Deutsche Bank and Hope works as a currency trader at Brown Brothers Harriman.

—Class Correspondents: Billie Borden (billie.borden@gmail.com); Ashley Bell Volwiler (ashley.volwiler@gmail.com).

10

We are saddened to share that **AJ Meyer** passed away recently. A loved member of the hockey team, AJ was always quick with a joke and a helping hand. If you have other stories you would like to share about AJ with the Middlebury community, please email Oscar and Alice so that they can be added to our class notes. • **Rebecca Chin** started her master's in education in the fall at the Univ. of Washington in Seattle. The two-year program will be in early childhood special education, and she is working towards her teacher certification. She just moved to Seattle from New York City, which has been quite a big change! • After four years of working development for screenwriter Ron Bass, **Mary-Cait Hentz** left a year and half ago to brave it alone. She's currently working for SuicideGirls and editing a book of nonfiction, while writing both horror and comedy on the side. This past September, she married Daniel Baxter on a perfectly foggy afternoon at her parents' house in Nantucket, Mass. They live happily on the east side of L.A. and are parents to a muppet of a dog, a cat they found on the street, and a very fickle tomato plant named Susan. • **Christine Chung** is a talent manager at Fueled, a company that helps develop apps and websites. She just signed a lease for her first roommate-free apartment in Brooklyn and is looking forward to a trip with friends to Ireland, France, and the U.K.

—Class Correspondents: Alice Ford (alicemarieford@gmail.com); Oscar Loyo (loyo.oscar@gmail.com).

11

We're delighted to share updates from a few of our classmates this quarter. A very warm congratulations to two of our classmates on their recent weddings: **Maria Perille** married Mustafa Hammond, a graduate of Yale University, on August 27 at the Sanctuary Golf Course in Denver, Colo. Midd Kids in attendance included **Hilary Walker**, **Nina Hommel**, **Naomi Berkins**, and **Holly O'Donnell**. • Kaitlyn Fallon '10 and **Jamal Davis** were married on September 24 at the Inn at Round Barn Farm in Waitsfield, Vt. It was a beautiful day and they were joined by many friends and family. As four-year varsity basketball athletes, many of their coaches, teammates, Commons staff, and Middlebury friends joined them on this day as well. Sending our best to the newlyweds! • Recently moved to the Bay Area is **Aseem Mulji**, who started law school at Berkeley in the fall. • **Sabrina Bektesevic** has moved to the opposite coast, back to New York to her native borough of Queens. She is continuing to work at Google as an account manager in digital advertising sales. She celebrated her 27th birthday over the summer in Montenegro with her grandmother who lives there. • And we are thoroughly impressed by our classmates who recently completed their PhDs! **Zheng Zheng** graduated with a PhD in analytical chemistry from the Univ. of Michigan in June 2016. Shortly after, he started a new job as an analytical development scientist at Vertex Pharmaceuticals in Boston. Vertex is a midsized pharmaceutical company seeking new medicines for a number of diseases, but currently has a large focus on cystic fibrosis treatment. • **Jack Terrett** writes, "After five long years, I finally graduated in May 2016 with my PhD in chemistry from Princeton Univ. With my newfound freedom, I spent the summer back in Vermont and thru-hiked the Long Trail, joined at times by fellow classmates **Stanis Moody-Roberts**, **Nat Nelson**, and **Ben Weir**. I then headed west and have now started my first real-world job in the discovery chemistry group at Genentech in San Francisco!" • Please continue to submit updates to us anytime at midd2011@gmail.com—we love to hear from you!

—Class Correspondents: Ashley Cheung (cheung.ash@gmail.com); Carly Lynch (cjlynch489@gmail.com).

12

REUNION CLASS Happy winter, everyone! We hope this finds you doing well, wherever you may be. Below are a few updates from our classmates—read on! • **Jessie Williamson** reports that she just started a PhD program in evolutionary biology at the Univ. of New Mexico, where she'll be studying hummingbird adaptation to high altitude. She also attended the first ever Middlebury Fellowships in Environmental Journalism reunion in the fall at Bread Loaf, which was inspirational—so much good company and beautiful scenery! • Also out west, **Astrid Schanz-Garbassi** says, "I'm living the good life in California—lots of good outdoor time and indoor time spent at Stride Health, where I've been working for two years now. If you pass through San Francisco, drop me a line!" • Back on the East Coast, **Silvano DiMonte** and **Nadia Schreiber** are still happily cohabitating on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. They are also both starting graduate school at NYU, Silvano to become a nurse practitioner and Nadia to get her MBA. They have begun supplementing their Midd gear with a little bit of violet here and there. • **Jordan Weiss** married Jonathan Coleman (Brandeis 2008) on September 25 in New Orleans, La. Jordan was joined by **Lia Schnackenberg**, serving as a bridesmaid, with Lia's husband Dave Hu '09 also in attendance. • This past summer, **Sophia D'Ignazio** married **John Filoon** on July 30 at Tinicum Park in Pennsylvania. Many Middlebury grads from a range of years were present to celebrate together, including **Sally Wilkey**, Alix Zachow '13, Jake Lassow '07, Dhara Baiden (MA English '12), Jim '78 and Robin Calkins Hipple '80, **Nathan Kloczko**, **Will Woodworth**, **James Huth**, **Hallie Woods**, and Samantha Strom '13. • And as for me, **Sara Cohen**, I'm settling into grad

student life at Stanford, where I've been lucky to run into several Midd Kids on campus, including **Jason Mooty**, **Carolyn Kooi**, Ryan Brewster '14 and Katie Remington '10. Even on the left coast, these reunions make the Green Mountains feel not so far away! • And extra congrats to **Carolyn**, who has been named a Siebel Scholar at the Stanford Graduate School of Business. • That's all for now folks—remember we are always happy to hear from you at any time! Keep an eye out for more information coming this spring about our five-year reunion on campus, June 9–11!

—Class Correspondents: Sara Cohen (srcohen90@gmail.com); Paige Keren (pkeren12@gmail.com).

13

In October Midd grads **Cayla Marvil** and A.C. Jones '12 finally opened the doors and began selling beer to the Cambridge community with their new business, Lamplighter Brewing Co, after converting an old car garage. Stop by and fill a growler, or find it around Cambridge, or follow along on their Instagram @lamplighterbrew! • On July 2 **Santana Snyder** married Troy Audet in Bridport, Vt., at Blue Spruce Farm. • In September **Christian Schoning** began a master's program at the Univ. of Copenhagen in cognition and communication. He is truly enjoying the student life in Copenhagen and the free education provided courtesy of the Danish government. **Ben Wagner** visited this past summer and he and Christian had a fantastic time visiting the Roskilde music festival and later Amsterdam. • The Pacific Northwest Midd population is growing! **Austin Bergeron** recently moved to Seattle to take a job with the Boys and Girls Club as a youth career mentor; he also headed north for an evening in Bellingham joining **Elma Burnham** and Taylor Bickford '14, who are both living there, about an hour and a half north of Seattle. The three look forward to getting together for a Lady B performance one of these days! Any other folks in the area, let's hang! • **Mahnaz Rezaie** has completed her MFA in new media and photojournalism at George Washington's Corcoran School for the Arts and interns at the *Washington Post,* editing, filming, writing, and telling stories on the national stage. She also mentors writers for the Afghan Women's Writing Project, helping women who grew up in that culture tell their stories and hone their voices. Bustle.com recently named her one of their Upstart Awards Honorees of 2016. • Congratulations to **Barbara Ofosu-Somuah**, who was awarded a Fulbright fellowship, which she is spending in Italy, examining diversity and inclusion efforts in Italian schools for immigrant students. She plans to pursue doctoral studies in education, focusing on race, inequity, and language in higher ed.

—Class Correspondents: Elma Burnham (eccburnham@gmail.com); Peter DiPrinzio (peterd1331@gmail.com).

14

Congratulations to **Leif Castren**, who was awarded a Fulbright fellowship. After completing his first semester of graduate studies in ecology and religion at Yale in the fall, he is studying ecological responses to volcanic disturbances from the 2008–2009 eruptions of Volcán Chaitén in southern Chile. • **Tommy Hyde** is serving as the filmmaker in residence at the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury this year. He continues to work on the documentary he's been producing, which will eventually be a feature-length film. It focuses on the life of a local farmer, who has two lifelong dreams he's trying to fulfill—to pass his family dairy farm on to his son and win the 2017 dog mushing world championships in Alaska. Check it out at www.underdogfilm.org.

—Class Correspondents: Vivian Cowan (viviancowan@gmail.com); Peter Mattson (pcmattson@partners.org); Hannah Ostrow (hannahostrow@gmail.com).

15

Congratulations to **Levi Westerfeld**, whose map depicting all the people who died trying to reach Europe by crossing the water from Africa and the Middle East was chosen by National Geographic as one of the best new maps and included in the third volume of the *Atlas of Design.* Each victim is represented by a single dot and Levi attempted to place each dot as close to where the person died as possible. The National Geographic editors described the overall effect of the map as "a total emotional gut punch." Levi is a spatial analyst and cartographer at the Norwegian foundation GRID-Arendal. • **Cooper Couch** writes, "I was accepted to the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine's Primary Care Physician Assistant Program as part of the Class of 2020! I am looking forward to meeting other Middlebury alumni in the Los Angeles area during my time there." • **Daniel Skayne** has been promoted to senior associate consultant at Mars & Co, a global management consulting firm specializing in business strategy and operational improvement for major global corporations. Daniel joined the firm's NYC area (Greenwich, Conn.) office as an associate consultant following his graduation from Middlebury. Since joining Mars & Co, Daniel has worked as a generalist consultant with several of Mars & Co's high-profile clients in a variety of industries, including food products, financial services, automotive products, beer, and packaging materials. His project-related travel has taken him to various locations both in the U.S. and internationally, including a trip to South America. • Congratulations to **Mark Balderston**, who was awarded a Fulbright fellowship and is pursuing an English teaching assistantship, and to **Naina Qayyum**, who received a Schwarzman scholarship for graduate study in China. She'll spend a year pursuing a master's at Tsinghua Univ. in Beijing. • **Alex Saunders** writes, "Hi, everyone! This April I'm going to be running the London Marathon with the MS-UK charity team. I wanted to use this opportunity to tell you a bit about multiple sclerosis (MS). MS is a degenerative disease that affects over 2.3 million people worldwide. MS causes the loss of myelin in the central nervous system, which disrupts the ability of nerves to conduct electrical impulses to and from the brain. The cause of MS is unknown, and the progression of the disease can be unpredictable. Folks with MS experience a wide range of symptoms, such as vision loss, tremors, trouble walking, slurred speech, memory loss, anxiety, mood swings, and more. Over 400,000 Americans are affected by MS, and about 20,000 people die from MS each year. MS is the most widespread disabling neurological condition of young adults in the world, and is typically diagnosed in people between the ages of 20 and 50. There is no known cure for MS at this time, though medications can help slow the progression of the disease and manage symptoms. I feel by supporting organizations like MS-UK, I can help researchers find a cure for MS, as MS-UK is a national charity dedicated to MS research and improving the lives of people with MS. I'm really excited to be part of the team, and to be running my first marathon! If you would like to learn more about MS or MS-UK, please don't hesitate to contact me at asaundersvt@gmail.com."

—Class Correspondents: Elyse Barnard (elyse.dh.barnard@gmail.com); Cooper Couch (couch.cooper@gmail.com).

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We still need two volunteers to be class correspondents for the Class of 2016. It's a great way to stay in touch with classmates and see where their paths are leading after graduation! Please contact the alumni editor, Sara Marshall, at smarshal@middlebury.edu if you are interested! • Some news about classmates has come into the magazine office. After graduation, **Winson Law** was accepted into Venture for America, which connects recent graduates with jobs at start-ups, which launch them into entrepreneurial careers. • Congratulations to **Terry Goguen**, whose company JoyRyde has created an app that incentivizes safer driving by tracking the user's distance and length of time driving without phone distractions, such as texting or talking on the cell phone, and rewarding drivers with prizes for safe driving. Rice Memorial High School in Burlington, Vt., has signed on as the first school to use the app, with National Honor Students there inviting fellow students, and faculty, staff, and parents to join them in using it. • After traveling the country writing poetry this past summer, **Ben Andrew Henry** is serving as an intern at *The Scientist* and writing for the publication. • Congratulations to **Brennan Delattre**, who will be presenting the results of her senior work done in the Neuroscience Dept. at the International Neuroscience Conference at Oxford Univ. in July. Her research is titled "Capoeira: The Relationship of an Afro-Brazilian Cooperative Movement Art to State Anxiety, State Self-Efficacy, and Prosocial Behavior Tendencies."

OBITUARIES

38 **Margaret Leslie Hall**, 99, of Shelburne, Vt., on April 27, 2016. At Middlebury she was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority. After raising her children, she became very involved with the church, in particular the Community Church of Glen Rock in New Jersey. A loyal Middlebury volunteer, she served as a class correspondent for 18 years. She and husband Charles, who predeceased her, raised three children, Fred, Joanne '67, and Lynne.

40 **Helen Doyle Black**, 98, of Greensboro, N.C., on July 27, 2016. She was accepted into the nation's first class of female Navy officers, training at Smith College, and rose to the rank of lieutenant commander by the end of WWII. Earning an MBA from Radcliffe College School of Business, she worked in personnel at department stores in Boston and Greensboro before joining Burlington Industries as personnel manager. She was predeceased by husband Daniel.

Margaret Heald Lawton, 98, of Essex Junction, Vt., on August 11, 2016. At Middlebury she was a member of Theta Chi Omega and sang in the choir. After teaching junior high school, she was an active volunteer while raising her children. She then spent 10 years substitute teaching. She was a 45-year member of her church's choir. Predeceased by husband Erle, she is survived by children Robert and Nancy, three grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Sally Nothnagle Tefft, 97, of Greenwich, N.Y., on May 29, 2016. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma at Middlebury. When her children were in school, she opened Journal Stationers, a subsidiary of her husband's family business, *The Greenwich Journal and Salem Press,* and commercial print shop. In 1972 she and her husband took over the newspaper and printing business and after his death in 1980, she was the publisher and editor of the newspaper and store manager until 2013. Predeceased by husband Richard '40, she is survived by children Susan, Culver, Timothy '71, and Tabor, four grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. Deceased Middlebury relatives include sisters Emmy Lou Brown '34 and Claribel Spamer '38, and nephew David Brown '61.

42 **Ruth Taylor Clapper**, 96, of East Charleston, Vt., on May 30, 2016. A Phi Mu at Middlebury, she had a career in education, including teaching French and Spanish at Woodstown (N.J.) High School for 21 years. She spent many years as a Girl Scout leader. Predeceased by husband Charles '42, she is survived by daughters Bonnie and Becky, five grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren. Middlebury relatives include sister Leila Taylor Baggett '46.

43 **Eleanor Reier Brown**, 94, of Westwood, Mass., on May 2, 2016. During WWII, she served as a hospital dietician in the Army. After raising her four daughters, Angela, Betsy, Marcia '75, and Lucinda, she earned her master's in biology at Williams College and for 22 years organized and taught biology labs, retiring in 1989. She then acquired a business, Margaret Howell Dances, a series of subscription dances held every year in Boston, which she managed for six years. Husband Fielding survives her.

Ralph S. Crawshaw, 92, of Portland, Ore., on May 24, 2014. A Theta Chi at Middlebury, he served in the Army's 10th Mountain Division Ski Troops during WWII. Earning his medical degree from NYU's College of Medicine, he established his private psychiatric practice in Portland in 1960. Over the years he founded several organizations that promoted health services for those not properly covered by health care. He was appointed to the U.S. National Academy of Science's Institute of Medicine; Britain's Royal Society of Medicine; and was honored as the Oregon Medical Association's Doctor-Citizen of the Year in 1978. A prolific writer, he was the author of several books including *Compassion's Way: A Doctor's Quest into the Soul of Medicine.* He is survived by wife Carol, and children David and Laura.

Alice Landis Tonry, 94, of Hampton Falls, N.H., on July 5, 2016. During WWII she served in the Army as a medical technician then graduated from Tufts Medical School in 1951. When her children were grown, she began a career as a real estate broker. She and her husband had a 250-acre Christmas tree farm, which she managed. Predeceased by husband Herbert and son George, she is survived by children Albert, Claudia, John, Abby and Louis, 10 grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren.

44 **Mary Whitney Cassedy**, 92, of Plainfield, N.H., on April 25, 2016. She had a lifelong career in education, teaching all levels from elementary to several years at Kimball Union Academy to teaching writing at Community College of Vermont. After attending an archaeological field school at UNH, she spent many years involved with archaeological work. Predeceased by husband David '44, she is survived by children Margaret, Ruth, Daniel, and Kathleen, and four grandchildren. Middlebury relatives include nieces Nena Cassedy '76, Karen Cassedy '79, and Laura Cassedy Friend '82.

Hugh M. Taft, 92, of Hanover, N.H., on May 3, 2016. A member of Delta Upsilon, he served in the Navy as an electrician's mate on a destroyer during WWII. With a mechanical engineering degree from MIT, he worked at Baxter D. Whitney and Bryant Chucking Grinder Corp. before cofounding Vermont Research Corp., which became a leading manufacturer of magnetic memory drums for computers. Predeceased by wife Barbara, and daughters Pamela '73 and Paula, he is survived by children Roderic and Martha, five grandchildren, including Jonathan '04 and Joya '06 Taft-Dick, and two great-grandchildren. Middlebury relatives include brother Philip '36 (deceased), niece Joanna Taft Maynard '58, and nephew David Klock '60.

45 **Patricia deLearie Haufler**, 91, of Shelburne, Vt., on June 5, 2016. With an MEd from Union College and a Sixth-Year degree in special education, she taught learning-disabled children in the Wilton (Conn.) public schools for 14 years. In 1980 she and her husband founded Haufler Assoc., a communications consulting firm, and retired from the business in 1989. She is survived by husband Hervie, and sons Christopher and Jonathan. Deceased Middlebury relatives include brother Frederic '51.

Dorothy Laux O'Brien, 92, of Manchester, Vt., on May 7, 2016. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa. She was a writer and wrote press clippings for sports and club events, articles for local newspapers, and advertising copy. For many years she wrote the column "Double Take" for the *Manchester Journal.* Predeceased by son Howard and sister Jane Holt '46, she is survived by sons Mark and Jeffrey, and four grandchildren.

46 **Maude Gaston Fetzer**, 91, of Pompton Plains, N.J., on August 5, 2016. A Sigma Kappa at Middlebury, she volunteered many years at Valley Hospital in Ridgewood, N.J., before pursuing her 18-year career as a nurse's aide. She is survived by husband William, children Virginia, William, and Katherine, six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

Jean Anderson Battey Lewis, 91, of Chevy Chase, Md., on May 12, 2016. She earned her bachelor's from American Univ. in 1949. With a lifelong interest in dance, having studied it and taught it, she oversaw the *Washington Post*'s dance coverage for nearly 15 years, mainly during the '60s and early '70s. She then hosted a music and commentary program on local radio, was editor in chief and associate publisher of the *Washington Guide to the Arts*, and wrote feature stories on dance for NPR. From 1989 to 2008 she was a dance critic at the *Washington Times.* Predeceased by husband Paul, she is survived by children David, Laura, Robert, and Megan Battey '79, and stepdaughter Anne Lewis.

47 **Prescott R. Carr**, 90, of Sun City West, Ariz., on April 22, 2016. A member of Delta Upsilon at Middlebury, he earned his MS in chemistry from the College in 1948. He had a lifelong career in chemical sales with Allied Chemical, mostly in Canada, retiring in 1990 as an executive. Predeceased by granddaughter

Annika, he is survived by wife Joan (Spross) '48, children David, Carol, Mary, and Scott, and seven grandchildren.

Audrey Jewell Lenk, 90, of Lexington, Mass., on July 14, 2016. With a master's from the Simmons School of Social Work, she was a clinical social worker for the Cambridge (Mass.) Guidance Center for 20 years. Predeceased by husband Richard, she is survived by daughters Erica and Allison, and two grandchildren.

Phyllis Howland McIntosh, 90, of Pleasant Hill, Calif., on May 27, 2016. After graduation she worked as a secretary for several years before raising her two sons and one daughter. She was predeceased by husband Alex and two sons. Daughter Kathryn survives her.

48 **Ann Tisdale Buettner**, 89, of Pittsburgh, Pa., on July 1, 2016. While living in Auburn, Maine, she was an active volunteer with the American Red Cross, public libraries, the Theatre at Monmouth, and the Democratic Party. Predeceased by husband Art '48, she is survived by son Dennett, three grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter.

Mary S. Harper, 90, of Atwater, Calif., on May 17, 2016. She taught kindergarten in Colorado and Hayward, Calif., for many years before retiring to Mariposa near Yosemite National Park. She is survived by brothers Robin and David, sister Lucy, and many nieces and nephews and their families.

John F. Smith, 93, of Shelburne, Vt., on April 28, 2016. During WWII he served in the Army in the Pacific Theater as an officer in the 543rd Engineer Boat and Shore Regiment. At Middlebury he was a member of Alpha Tau Omega. After attending the Doscher School of Country Photography, he worked as a photographer for the Vermont Development Dept. before joining UVM as the head of the photo service. Predeceased by son Stephen, he is survived by wife Barbara (Cole), children Karen, Sandi, and Matthew, three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

49 **Joan Keller Alden**, 89, of Needham, Mass., on May 11, 2016. A Delta Delta Delta at Middlebury, she earned her master's in education from Harvard/Radcliffe. She taught several years then was an active volunteer as she raised her children. Predeceased by husband John, she is survived by children Elizabeth, Peter, and Katherine, nine grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Irene Ulmer Boublik, 89, of Ashburn, Va., on July 15, 2016. She worked for 14 years for the CIA, living in Frankfurt, Paris, and Ottawa. She also worked 10 years in the electronics industry. She and husband George '50, who predeceased her, had twin daughters, Johanna and Margot. Middlebury relatives include sister Johanna Ulmer '63.

Jean Retallick Gouert, 88, of Waterbury, Vt., on April 23, 2016. With a teacher's certificate in science, she taught high school science for several years before moving to Cleveland, Ohio, where she worked in agricultural chemical research for Diamond Shamrock Corp. Moving to Vermont in 1986, she worked at several jobs and took up painting. She is survived by children Anne, Thomas, and Steven, and seven grandchildren.

Lorena Laing Hart, 88, formerly of Hingham, Mass., on April 2, 2016. With an MA from BU, she worked as a curatorial associate at the deCordova Museum in Lincoln, Mass. She later worked as a researcher on the Hawthorne Project at the Univ. of Virginia. Moving back to Hingham, she and her husband began a project to write the history of the town in the late 1980s and published *Not All Is Changed: A Life History of Hingham* in 1993. She and husband Rus, who predeceased her, raised children Russell, Ruth, and Priscilla.

Lawrence M. Walheim Jr., 92, of Visalia, Calif., on July 23, 2016. During WWII he served in the Army Air Corp. as a pilot. He had a long career in industrial tools, eventually founding his own company, L.M. Walheim and Associates, which represented a number of large tool and supply manufacturers. In retirement he focused on his love of collecting and repairing antique clocks. Predeceased by wife Avis (Bentz), he is survived by children Lance, Mark, Curt, Rex, and Karen, and four grandchildren.

50 **June Andersen Erickson**, 87, of Needham, Mass., on May 16, 2016. After graduating, she taught kindergarten. A lifelong lover of books, she worked at Walden Books from 1983–2000. Predeceased by husband Alan '49, she is survived by children Kim '75, John, Martha, and Bill, and 10 grandchildren.

Katharine Pell Meeker, 88, of Scarborough, Maine, on June 2, 2016. At Middlebury she was in Pi Beta Phi. With an MA in education from Columbia's Teachers College, she taught for several years before raising her children. She volunteered with many organizations dedicated to social services, education, and the arts. Predeceased by daughter Jennifer, she is survived by husband Irving '50, children David, Susan '78, and Kimberly '80, and nine grandchildren, including Tamara Vatnick '07, Katharine Meeker '14, and Daniel Vatnick '15.

Edward B. Valpy, 88, of Portland, Ore., on July 21, 2016. A veteran of the Air Force, he was in Chi Psi at Middlebury. He had a long forest products sales career, which included stints with Allen Stoltz Lumber

JOHN SPENCER
FEBRUARY 3, 1930–DECEMBER 31, 2016

John Spencer, 86, African Studies Emeritus Professor of History and former trustee, died in Rye, New York, on December 31, 2016. When John arrived at Middlebury as an instructor of history in 1974, he did not have a traditional academic background, but he did bring a wealth of experience. Earning a bachelor's degree from Princeton in 1953, he served for two years as first lieutenant, infantry platoon leader, in the U.S. Marine Corps in Korea. After working for five years at the National Sugar Refining Company, he developed an interest in the emerging countries of sub-Saharan Africa, which led to working two years as a fellow with the Institute of Current World Affairs in East Africa, three years as a program officer at the Ford Foundation for Eastern, Northern, and Southern Africa, and as a Peace Corps evaluator for Gambia, Mauritania, and Senegal. He then earned his MA and PhD from Columbia University.

At Middlebury, he was named assistant professor of history in 1975, served as dean of the College from 1976–1981, was promoted to associate professor of history in 1978, and to professor of history in 1983. He was named William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of History from 1987–1990 and chaired the history department from 1988–1991. From 1992 until his retirement in 1998, he was a professor of African studies and was instrumental in reviving that program. In 1992, friends and alumni endowed the Chair in African Studies, which, upon John's retirement, was officially named the John Spencer Chair of African Studies.

Immediately following his retirement from the faculty, John was elected to Middlebury's Board of Trustees, serving two five-year terms. His other numerous achievements included serving as a trustee of the African Medical Research Foundation; a trustee of Atlanta University; and as trustee and vice-chairman of both the Africa-America Institute and the Institute of Current World Affairs. He was also appointed as an international observer for the 1994 South African elections.

He is survived by wife Natalie, sons David and Theodore '88, daughter Natalie '94, stepchildren Cassandra and John Cushing, and seven grandchildren.

Co. in Vancouver, BC, and the Boston-based Furman Lumber Co., for whom he was the founding member of Furman's Portland office. Predeceased by wife Jane (Beebe), he is survived by daughter Shan, husband George, and grandson Christian.

51 **William B. Butler**, 87, of Duxbury, Mass., on July 25, 2016. During the Korean War, he served in the Air Force as a second lieutenant, stationed in Japan. With an MBA from Dartmouth's Tuck School, he worked at Gillette before starting his own business, Lincoln Fiberglass. After selling it, he went to work for Litecontrol Corp, where he was treasurer and VP for 25 years. He is survived by wife Paula Surette, daughters Karen, Deborah, and Susan '81, seven grandchildren, including Benjamin Savard '14, two stepdaughters, and seven step-grandchildren. Deceased Middlebury relatives include sister Barbara Butler Biegel '53.

Marshall Figgatt, 89, of Ridgefield, Conn., on August 6, 2016. During WWII, he served in the Marine Corps as a rifleman in the Asiatic Pacific Theater. A Sigma Epsilon at Middlebury, he was called back to service during the Korean War as a Marine infantry officer, rising to the rank of captain and commanding an infantry company. He had a career as a stockbroker and investment officer before working in banks as a trust investment officer. Predeceased by wife Sallie (Iliff) '51 and son Bruce, he is survived by sons Thomas and Alan, and five grandchildren.

52 **Stephen E. Baker**, 86, of Brattleboro, Vt., on July 2, 2016. A member of Delta Upsilon, he served in the Marine Corps. from 1952–54 in Japan, earning the rank of captain. Joining the family business, he worked six decades guiding the company's growth and expansion in retail, wholesale, and contract furniture businesses. He was deeply involved in community activities and was named "Person of the Year" in 1987 by the Brattleboro Chamber of Commerce. Predeceased by wife Jane (Murdoch) '50, he is survived by sons James '81, Jonathan '83, and Stephen '86, and five grandchildren.

John L. Taylor, 88, of Berkeley, Calif., on June 25, 2016. He served in the Navy at the end of WWII. An Alpha Sigma Psi at Middlebury, he earned a master's in governmental administration from the Wharton School at UPenn. He spent 20 years as a city manager in five different cities before joining SRI International as a senior urban management specialist, eventually becoming the director of the International Development Center. In 1982 he was appointed the clerk of the Board of Supervisors in San Francisco, retiring in 1998. He is survived by wife Barbara (Becker) '52, children Cathy, Bob, Bill, and Susie, and several grandchildren.

Ruth Shonyo Trask, 86, of Northborough, Mass., on July 26, 2016. An Alpha Xi Delta at Middlebury, she attended Katharine Gibbs School in Boston. She was a reporter before she joined the staff at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, where she was the alumni editor and writer for over 20 years. She is survived by former husband William '52, children Carrie, Laurie, Jeff, and Terry, and three grandchildren.

53 **Donald C. Beers Jr.**, 86, of Scituate, Mass., on August 16, 2016. A member of Sigma Epsilon, he enlisted in the Navy during the Korean War. He had a long career as a machine tool manufacturers representative, owning the Donald Beers Co. Moving to Florida, he worked in real estate. He is survived by sons Donald, Richard, and David, three grandsons, and two great-grandchildren, including the first female born into the Beers family in 107 years.

Laura Chapman Rico, 83, of Los Banos, Calif., on June 28, 2016. With a master's in Christian education from St. Mary's College in Berkeley, she had a lifelong career as a teacher. In 1982 she created the tutorial program at Merced College, Los Banos campus, and ran the program until retiring in 2015. For over 20 years she returned to Anvik, Alaska, the village of her youth to teach summer Bible School. Predeceased by husband Paul, she is survived by daughter May and her family. Deceased Middlebury relatives include grandfather John Chapman, Class of 1879, father Henry Chapman, Class of 1918, uncles John Thomas, Class of 1890, Henry Seely, Class of 1894, and Lockwood Seely, Class of 1895, and aunt Sarah Seely Thomas, Class of 1891.

Paul W. Vestal Jr., 86, of Rancho Mirage, Calif., on July 11, 2016. With a bachelor's from the Univ. of Colorado, he spent a year studying languages in Monterey and was an army liaison in Frankfurt, Germany, to the State Dept. In 1957 he established an insurance brokerage firm in California. Predeceased by daughter Hilary, he is survived by son Peter, wife Judith, and two granddaughters.

54 **Stanley P. Holt**, 84, of Townshend, Vt., on May 4, 2016. A member of Sigma Epsilon at Middlebury, he earned his divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary in 1957. He served in Presbyterian parishes before becoming the Univ. of Cincinnati campus minister. In the late 1960s he trained as a grassroots community organizer and worked on Chicago's West Side, and in Providence, Baltimore, and Fall River among other communities. He is survived by wife Marjorie (Morgan) '55, children Tim, Laurent, Guy, and Constance, and nine grandchildren. Middlebury relatives include brother Nicholas '56 (deceased), sisters Katherine '63 and Helen '63 (deceased), and nephew Joseph Hoskins '89.

55 **David P. Bridges**, 83, of Rutland, Vt., on July 22, 2016. He was in Alpha Sigma Psi at Middlebury. He had a lifelong career in education, spending 39 years on the faculty at the Hackley School, serving as teacher, director of guidance, director of development and alumni secretary, director of admissions, and assistant headmaster. Active in his community, he was once named "Man of the Year" by the Tarrytown (N.Y.) Chamber of Commerce. Predeceased by daughter Sarah, he is survived by wife Nancy (Wallace), sons Douglas '86 and Bruce '88, and four grandchildren.

John L. Knecht, 83, of Belvidere, N.J., on April 27, 2016. A Delta Upsilon at Middlebury, he served as a lieutenant in the Navy. With a master's in sociology and psychology from the New School in New York, he worked in corporate public relations, as a real estate sales manager, a corporate relocation counselor, and a moving company sales manager. He is survived by wife Maria, children Julie, John, and Krista, two stepchildren, and 10 grandchildren.

56 **R. Victor Harned**, 81, of Fredericksburg, Va., on June 1, 2015. A Theta Chi at Middlebury, he served in the Army after graduation. He had a lifelong career as a stockbroker, retiring in 1991. He is survived by wife Molly, four children, and nine grandchildren.

Pendennis W. Reed Jr., 81, of Dorset, Vt., on July 8, 2016. A Sigma Epsilon at Middlebury, he entered the Navy Atlantic Fleet Amphibious Force. He then joined the family business, Bishop Manufacturing, working up to VP. In 1969 he moved to Vermont, where he started an accounting business and bought an outdoor recreation business called Quiet Sports. He taught skiing at Bromley Mountain for seven years. He is survived by wife Barbara (Cutchins), sons Pen III, Kent, and Christopher, three stepchildren, and five grandchildren.

58 **Michael A. Dehlendorf**, 81, of Blacklick, Ohio, on August 16, 2016. A Sigma Epsilon member at Middlebury, he enlisted in the Army infantry, graduating from the Infantry Officer's Leadership Class. He served as a company commander at Ft. Knox, leaving active duty as a first lieutenant. He had a career in the real estate development business, first as president of Ohio Equities before he formed Dehlendorf and Company. He is survived by wife Constance (Crabbe) '59, children Laura, Michael '85, and Matthew, and four grandsons.

Clifford L. Kernochan Jr., 80, of Hermosa Beach, Calif., on June 14, 2016. A Delta Upsilon at Middlebury, he served in the Navy for four years after college. He took a job with Kirkwood Electric Co., later becoming an owner of the business. He and his son later owned and ran Energy Retrofit Group. He is survived by wife Jean (Tischler) and sons Jeff and Steve and their

families. Middlebury relatives include sister Melinda Swanson '63, uncle Elbert MacFadden '39 (deceased), and aunt Patricia Kane MacFadden '42 (deceased).

Edward W. Lavery, 81, of Spafford, N.Y., on May 12, 2016. A member of Alpha Tau Omega at Middlebury, he earned his law degree from BU law school in 1962. Moving to Skaneateles, N.Y., he opened a private law practice and served as the village attorney for 21 years. He is survived by wife Linda (Carson) '61, children Amanda, Edward '88, Benjamin, and Nagulinie, and seven grandchildren.

Nancy Williams Thornton, 80, of Boulder, Colo., on April 25, 2016. An Alpha Xi Delta, she earned an MA in teaching at Columbia and an MS in psychology at the Univ. of Alaska. She worked for many years as a human resources supervisor for the Dept. of Commerce/NOAA, where she also mentored other women in the profession. She is survived by son J.E.B. Stuart Thornton and sister Sally Williams-Allen '64.

59 **Aliceanne Britain Griffin**, 79, of Swampscott, Mass., on June 21, 2016. A Delta Delta Delta at Middlebury, she was an active volunteer while raising her children. After completing course work in pensions at Bentley College, she joined a small pension administration firm before starting her own company, Griffin Pension Service, in 1979, which she ran until 1997. She was the first woman to be elected chairman of the board of the Smaller Business Assoc. of New England. Predeceased by husband Robert, she is survived by children Mary, Robert, and John, and six grandchildren.

60 **Elinor A. Budelier**, 77, of Rock Island, Ill., on August 2, 2016. With a master's in Russian area studies from the Univ. of Minnesota, she worked over 30 years at the Central Intelligence Agency in Washington, D.C., as an analyst, senior analyst, and liaison officer. She mastered German and Old German script and enjoyed translating documents. She is survived by many cousins.

Nicholas S. Gorham, 78, of Foster, R.I., on July 23, 2016. At Middlebury he was in Delta Kappa Epsilon. With a DVM from Michigan State Univ., he provided veterinary care to large and small animals for over 30 years at the Foster Veterinary Clinic, a practice he opened in the 1970s. He is survived by daughters Monica and Ruth, and two grandchildren.

Charles S. Hadley, 81, of Cape Elizabeth, Maine, on July 3, 2016. A member of Kappa Delta Rho, he served in the Army of Occupation in Germany. With an MBA from the Univ. of Maine, he worked for General Motors for 32 years, retiring as a sales manager. He then became a firearms dealer. He is survived by wife Sally (Gilblair), daughters Erika, Deborah '86, and Melodie, sons John and Mark, and eight grandchildren. Deceased Middlebury relatives include great-grandfather Henry Starr, Class of 1834, father Clifton, Class of 1909, and uncle Egbert Hadley, Class of 1910. Surviving Middlebury relatives include sister Caroline Wood '55.

Philip H. Tangeman, 78, of Troy, Pa., on June 27, 2016. A member of Delta Kappa Epsilon at Middlebury, he had a long career in sales. He is survived by wife Carol (Scheaf), and daughters Lisa and Karen and their families.

62 **Judith Clarke Grohe**, 65, of Newburyport, Mass., on May 30, 2016. An Alpha Xi Delta, she and her husband ran a bed and breakfast in the South End of Boston for 14 years before moving to Newburyport. She was also the accountant for her husband's photographic business as well as other businesses. She served as church secretary at the First Parish in Brookline. She is survived by husband Stephen, daughters Deborah and Laura, and one granddaughter.

Barbara Smith Vidal, 75, of Port Jefferson, N.Y., on April 28, 2016. A Theta Chi Omega, she taught Spanish for more than 30 years at Port Jefferson junior and senior high schools, during which time she implemented the English as a Second Language program to help Cambodian refugees. In retirement she was involved with Theatre Three, acting and costuming. She is survived by children Raquel, Diego, and Daniela, and two grandchildren.

63 **Brian C. Pendleton**, 74, formerly of Proctor, Vt., on May 4, 2016. He served two terms in the Vermont House of Representatives, was the news director of WSYB, communications director at Central Vermont Public Service, and public relations director of the American Red Cross. He acted in and directed many plays. Predeceased by son Terence and stepdaughter Lisa, he is survived by wife Becky Fenton, daughters Gillian and Catherine, and four grandchildren.

64 **Edwina Litwin Hoffman**, 74, of Coral Gables, Fla., on April 28, 2016. With a Master of Science from Florida International Univ., she taught in Venezuela and at the Miccosukee School in southern Florida, and later retired after many years of administrative service for ESOL in Dade County. She is survived by son Joshua, wife Stephanie, and two grandchildren.

Richard W. Maine, 74, of Avon, Conn., on May 15, 2016. At Middlebury he was a member of Delta Upsilon, serving as fraternity president. He began his career in finance as a management trainee at the Connecticut General Insurance Co., moving into their investment area and becoming senior VP and chief in

DAVID J. LITTLEFIELD
AUGUST 22, 1928–NOVEMBER 20, 2016

David J. Littlefield, 88, Stewart Professor Emeritus of English, died in Middlebury, Vt., on November 20, 2016. After receiving his undergraduate degree from Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama, he served in the Air Force from 1951–1952. Earning a master's from Yale, he joined the Middlebury faculty as an instructor in 1953. In 1956 he left for Yale to earn his PhD, but before he left, then-chair of the English Department Douglas Beers assured David that a job would be waiting for him at Middlebury after he completed his degree. He returned to the College in 1959 and taught English until his retirement in 1995. He became a full professor and was named to the Old Dominion Professorship in 1969. In 1974 he was named to the Philip Battell Stewart and Sarah Frances Cowles Stewart Professorship. He was the author of *Pomona and Vertumnus: A Fruition of History in Ovid's Metamorphoses* and numerous scholarly papers.

He inspired generations of students and his colleagues with his passion for his subjects, and he served as a valued mentor for younger faculty in the department. He enthusiastically immersed himself in a wide range of topics, including Milton—one of his primary areas of scholarship—as well as Chaucer, classical literature, English literature from the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries, practical criticism, and the films of such directors as Robert Altman and Stanley Kubrick.

Jay Parini, D.E. Axinn Professor of English and Creative Writing, says, "David was the archetype of a Middlebury professor in his era. A gentleman to his fingertips: kind and sensitive to students and colleagues alike. He was a deeply learned man who wore this lightly and was a natural teacher—inside and outside the class."

David was a member of several academic organizations, including the Modern Language Association, American Association of University Professors, and the American Philological Association.

Predeceased by wife Jean, he is survived by sons Patrick, David '79, Mark, and Christopher, School of Japanese '92, and eight grandchildren, including Malcolm Littlefield '13.

The following is a list of deaths reported to us since the previous issue went to the printers. Full obituaries will appear in future issues of the magazine.

Edward K. Morse '40 . . . . . September 30, 2016
Margaret Waller Glazier '41 . . . . . November 22, 2016
W. Irving Senne '42 . . . . . November 18, 2016
Ira P. Townsend '42 . . . . . September 26, 2016
Moncrieff J. Spear '43 . . . . . October 22, 2016
Anna M. Paul '44 . . . . . November 29, 2016
Kathryn Guernsey Smith '44 . . . . . November 12, 2016
Frederick C. Kelly '45 . . . . . October 20, 2016
D. Ross Brown '46 . . . . . September 19, 2016
Nancy Stratton Hall '46 . . . . . November 20, 2016
Doris Reynolds Cleveland '47 . . . . . October 12, 2016
Jane Valentine Talbert '47 . . . . . September 21, 2016
Ann Clarke Curley '48 . . . . . September 23, 2016
John C. Dawson '48 . . . . . November 22, 2016
Robert W. Kellogg '48 . . . . . December 14, 2016
R. Duke Powell Jr. '48 . . . . . November 3, 2016
Herbert J. Broner '49 . . . . . December 10, 2016
Gretchen Deckelman McCombs '51 . November 28, 2016
Ann Valentine Jennings '53 . . . . . November 29, 2016
James Ashworth '54 . . . . . October 17, 2016
Frank J. Gianforti '55 . . . . . October 3, 2016
Ruth Buddington Hergenrother '55 . . . . October 15, 2016
Thomas M. Hart '56 . . . . . August 16, 2016
Douglas Robinson '57 . . . . . September 15, 2016
Peter J. Bonner '58 . . . . . November 23, 2016
Robert C. Caste '58 . . . . . November 19, 2016
Kenneth W. Milner '58 . . . . . November 19, 2016
Doris Brassington Rich '59 . . . . . October 30, 2016
Gerald R. Barrington '60 . . . . . October 1, 2016
Jan C. Otto '60 . . . . . September 7, 2016
Daniel J. Armet '62 . . . . . September 6, 2016
Geoffrey L. Demong '66 . . . . . October 2, 2016
Martha Faulkner Fenno '66 . . . . . October 12, 2016
Andrew J. Pollock '66 . . . . . November 30, 2016
Grace Zanichkowsky Weber '77 . . . . December 14, 2016
Midelle Moore '78 . . . . . October 29, 2016
Carol J. Nelson '81 . . . . . September 14, 2016
Elizabeth Crockett Hixon '98 . . . . . October 3, 2016

GRADUATE

Richard T. Marr, MA English '64 . . . . November 11, 2016
Carol M. Shaw, MA English '71 . . . . . October 7, 2016
Evelyn Lewis Perera, MA English '75 . September 11, 2016
James R. Curley, MA English '87 . . . . . October 7, 2016
Carlene Wooster King, MA English '87 . October 22, 2016
Judith Nelson Walz, MA English '06 . September 17, 2016
Grace C. Carter, MA French '38 . . . . . October 1, 2016
Grace M. Ellenberg, MA French '64 . November 29, 2016
Thomas H. Geno, MA French '65 . . . November 27, 2016
Martha E. Lindner, MA French '68 . . November 10, 2016
Bryan Kirkpatrick, MA French '76 . . . September 15, 2016
Robert J. Hall, MA German '66 . . . . . October 15, 2016
Anthony F. DiRuzzo, MA Italian '68 . . November 13, 2016
Fayetta M. Wells, MA Spanish '51 . . . . November 2, 2016
Rosemary L. Blessington, MA Spanish '64 . . . . . September 11, 2016
Billie Stathes Wills, MA Spanish '64 . . November 13, 2016
David R. Donigian, MA Spanish '70 . . . October 30, 2016
Mary Rockwood de Diaz, MA Spanish '72 . . . . . October 29, 2016
Margaret Van Daalen, MATFL '88 . . . . October 10, 2016
Erik W. Ostrom, MBA '92 . . . . . July 13, 2016

vestment officer of CIGNA Investments. He held similar positions at other finance companies as well. He is survived by wife Angela (Wiley), daughters Heather, Holly, and Brennan, and three grandchildren.

65 **Thomas R. Trafton**, 73, of Newtonville, Mass., on May 12, 2016. A member of Delta Upsilon at Middlebury, he pursued an entrepreneurial career as a businessman, owner, and manager of several start-up companies. He is survived by several cousins.

67 **David A. Nicholson**, 72, of South Burlington, Vt., on June 1, 2016. At Middlebury he was in Delta Upsilon and played basketball and soccer, earning All-American honors. He served in the Army in Vietnam as an infantryman with "Charlie" Company and received a Purple Heart. With a law degree from Suffolk Univ., he began his law career with Vermont Legal Aid then had a lengthy private practice. While recovering from a liver transplant he wrote the book *Tales from the 'Nam*. Predeceased by wife Deirdre, he is survived by son Zack. Middlebury relatives include sister Carol Fryberger '61, nephew Jeremy Fryberger '88, and nieces Holly Fryberger Sienkiewicz '91 and Sarah Fryberger Madison '93.

69 **Putman D. Clark**, 69, of Kailua Kona, Hawaii, on June 27, 2016. A member of Alpha Tau Omega at Middlebury, he earned his MBA at NYU. Returning to Hawaii, he worked as a financial analyst for C. Brewer Co. before joining Bradley Properties in 1980. In 1994 he bought Bradley's Big Island operations and founded Clark Realty Corp., which became the largest residential real estate firm on the Big Island. He is survived by daughters Katie, Jenna, and Amanda, and one grandchild.

71 **Paula Morgan**, 66, of Arlington, Vt., on May 4, 2016. She worked in the restaurant business, at the Yankee Fisherman, the American Museum of Fly-Fishing, and Vermont Fuel Dealers Assoc. She also cofounded and ran the Lawn Maintenance Co. of Arlington for over 10 years. Predeceased by sister Amy, she is survived by brother Rodney and three stepchildren.

72 **Randi Ann Clagett Tomczak**, 65, of Essex Junction, Vt., on June 18, 2016. After serving as a co-owner of Arbortech Landscaping for several years, she began her own business called Queen Bee Landscape Service. She served her community for more than 30 years, planting beautiful flower gardens. She is survived by husband David, son John Wiley, and two grandchildren. Middlebury relatives include sister Marjorie Clagett-Perine '69.

75 **David A. Wilson**, 56, of Southampton, Bermuda, on June 4, 2009. Returning home to Bermuda in 1975, he taught high school English for 11 years. In 1986 he began law school at the Univ. of Northern London and graduated in 1989. He worked for the Human Rights Commission of Bermuda and was a lecturer of law at Bermuda College. He is survived by fiancée Patti Ann Woolridge and son Paul.

76 **Steven M. Brown**, 62, of Oriskany, N.Y., on June 7, 2016. After working in research with the American Health Foundation and as a scientist with Schering Corp., he earned his Doctor of Medicine at New Jersey College of Medicine and worked in private practice as a neurologist.

Peter A. Lizotte, 62, of Mattapoisett, Mass., on May 17, 2016. A Kappa Delta Rho at Middlebury, he earned his law degree from Suffolk Law School. He was a title examiner across several counties and was known for his expertise and thorough research. He is survived by wife Julie, sons Oliver and Ethan, and stepson Andrew.

78 **Amanda A. Elliott**, 59, of West Hartford, Conn., on May 16, 2016. After graduating from Paier College of Art, she was a visual artist of high talent as well as an accomplished interior designer. Predeceased by father Brig '52, she is survived by mother Patricia (DeWitt) '53, sister Victoria, and brother Chip and his family. Deceased Middlebury relatives include uncle John DeWitt '53.

14 **Clare E. Ulrich**, 23, of Simsbury, Conn., on May 22, 2016. After graduating from Middlebury cum laude with a degree in economics, she worked at EMI Strategic Marketing in Boston, Mass. She is survived by parents Peter '83 and Siobhan (Leahy) '83, and sister Ann '13. Middlebury relatives include great-grandfather Albert Leahy '28 (deceased), aunts Kim Ulrich Whelan '79, Martha Ulrich Dayton '87, Susan Leahy '89, and several cousins.

GRADUATE SCHOOLS FACULTY

Jon M. Strolle, 76, of Alameda, Calif., on August 17, 2016. After graduating magna cum laude from Oberlin College, he earned a master's and PhD from the Univ. of Wisconsin. He held administrative and teaching positions at the State Univ. of New York, Indiana Univ.,

the Univ. of Wisconsin, and Middlebury, including serving as the dean of the Spanish School from 1976–1980. In 1985 he joined the faculty of the Monterey Institute of International Studies and had a 25-year career there serving many years as a professor of Spanish, as well as doing stints as associate provost, director of the Summer Intensive Language Program, and dean of the Graduate School of Language and Educational Linguistics. Retiring in 2010, he taught Spanish for five years at California State Univ. Monterey Bay. He is survived by wife Martha (Hidalgo), sons Carl and Thomas, and three grandchildren.

STAFF

Marilyn Bayer De Laney, 88, of Cornwall, Vt., on November 1, 2016. With a degree in English literature from Bates College, she worked as a secretary at Time Inc., first for *Life* and then for the newly launched *Sports Illustrated.* Moving to Vermont in 1979, she took a temporary assignment in the Office of the President in 1982 before becoming a full-time employee and over a 32-year career, working in financial aid and for the Bread Loaf School of English as well as the president's office. She is survived by husband John '45, daughter Alison Granger '80, son John '88, and four grandchildren, Amanda Granger Erlandson '10, Sam Granger, and Sophia and Lucinda De Laney.

Fred E. Spencer Jr., 91, of Middlebury, Vt., on September 27, 2016. He started his career at Middlebury in 1969 when he became the director of campus security, a position he held until retirement in 1988. Prior to coming to the College, he worked in security at Dartmouth College. He was a master Mason, active member of the Shriners, and a member of the Champlain Valley Fiddlers Assoc. He is survived by wife Nellie (Hale), children Alice George and Wayne, three grandsons, and four great-grandchildren.

GRADUATE SCHOOLS

47 **Eleanor Hofmann Bishop**, 92, MA German, of Old Saybrook, Conn., on April 30, 2016. After volunteering with the New Jersey Symphony, she moved to Connecticut and became the general manager of the Eastern Connecticut Symphony, retiring in 1986.

49 **Mary Snyder Loveland**, 93, MA French, of Milwaukee, Wis., on March 1, 2016. During WWII she worked as a translator. She taught high school French at Wilkes-Barre (Pa.) Day School for several years then had a career as a legal secretary.

Ruth O'Neill Whiting, 94, MA French, of Cortland, N.Y., on May 30, 2016. She taught French at Homer (N.Y.) Central High School from 1943–1977, serving as advisor of the French Club for many years.

50 **Jane Scruggs Randolph**, 91, MA French, of Birmingham, Ala., on May 16, 2016. She was a French teacher at the Brooke Hill School in Birmingham for many years.

52 **Mary Parsons Jones**, 95, MA French, of Harlowton, Mont., on May 15, 2016. With a teacher's degree and a master's in counseling, she taught sixth grade in Big Timber, Mont., for 11 years.

Lillian Greenberger Szklarczyk, 85, MA French, of Denville, N.J., on July 4, 2016. She taught French at Montclair (N.J.) State University for 48 years. She wrote several books on phonetics.

53 **John F. Hartley**, 86, MA Spanish, of Scarborough, Maine, on April 7, 2016. He taught French at Choate School then served in the Army for two years before beginning his career with the Travelers Insurance Co., eventually owning Charter Oak Insurance Agency in Darien, Conn.

54 **Doris A. Polastri**, 92, MA Italian, of Branford, Conn., on March 9, 2016. She taught Italian at Torrington (Conn.) High School, serving several years as department chair, and was an associate professor at Albertus Magnus College. In 2009 she was inducted into the Branford Education Hall of Fame.

56 **Anna Ashhurst Gerber**, 83, MA Spanish, of Florissant, Mo., on May 3, 2016. She was a professor of Spanish for many years at the Univ. of Missouri-St. Louis.

57 **Donald A. Randolph**, 85, MA Spanish, of Cutler Bay, Fla., on March 10, 2016. From 1954–55 he served in the Army in Korea as a first lieutenant in the infantry. After teaching at the Calif. State College at Los Angeles, he joined the Univ. of Miami Dept. of Modern Languages in 1967, becoming a full professor in 1972.

62 **Lloyd W. Kline**, 84, MA English, of Newark, Del., on March 31, 2016. He taught high school English for 13 years before following career paths in writing, editing, and publishing.

Lois A. Swisher, 85, MA Spanish, of Springfield, Ohio, on March 28, 2016. She was a retired professor of Spanish at Arkansas State Univ. and had also taught at Medina and Hendrix Colleges, and Ohio State Univ.

63 **Joseph Bozicevic**, 90, MA Russian, of Fredericksburg, Va., on March 2, 2016. Born in Rakovica, Croatia, he spent four years in Great Britain before coming to the U.S. He was professor emeritus at the Univ. of Mary Washington, where he taught Russian language, literature, and culture for 30 years.

68 **E. Ralph Aldrich**, 80, MA English, of Littleton, N.H., on July 7, 2016. He was a professor of English at Lyndon (Vt.) State College for 26 years. He also served in the Air Force.

70 **Gloria Castro-Hearn**, 73, MA Spanish, of Las Vegas, Nev., on March 29, 2016. Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, she served her country in the U.S. Army, retiring as a lieutenant colonel.

Claire M. Colosimo, 82, MA Spanish, of Utica, N.Y., on May 11, 2016. She taught Spanish and Italian at Utica Free Academy for 25 years, retiring in 1989.

71 **Sue Janssen**, 70, MA French, of Fair Haven, Vt., on July 22, 2016. She taught French at West Essex Regional High School in North Caldwell, N.J., from 1968 until her retirement in 2001.

Therese Pasquale Maguire, 67, MA French, of Amherst, Mass., on July 7, 2016. She taught international short story, fiction, and film at UMass and served as the director of residential academic programs.

Joseph Miana, 85, MA English, of Barre, Vt., on April 2, 2016. He taught at Montpelier (Vt.) High School for 28 years before retiring. He then spent over 14 years teaching Spanish at Norwich Univ.

72 **Richard C. Thornton**, 70, MA French, of Frederick, Md., on May 11, 2016. He taught French and Spanish for 35 years, finishing his career in Cooperstown (N.Y.) Central School.

73 **Maria Candell Blakely**, 89, MA Spanish, of Montpelier, Vt., on March 16, 2016. Born in Guayaquil, Ecuador, she came to the U.S. through a scholarship to Columbia. She taught Spanish at several Vermont schools, retiring from Norwich Univ.

82 **Brian L. Denyer**, 68, MA French, of Naugatuck, Conn., on July 25, 2016. Born in England, he came to the States for college. He taught French and coached for over 30 years at Taft School in Watertown, Conn.

92 **David J. Lane**, 79, MA German, of Pittsburgh, Pa., on July 25, 2016. He began his German teaching career at Portsmouth (R.I.) Abbey for 13 years, then joined the faculty at Kiski School in Saltsburg, Pa., where he taught German and AP Psychology for 41 years.

Elizabeth A. Molho, 54, MA French, of Providence, R.I., on March 14, 2016. After several teaching assignments in Providence and Baltimore, she was appointed a bilingual elementary teacher in the Providence school system, teaching first and second grades.

Classifieds

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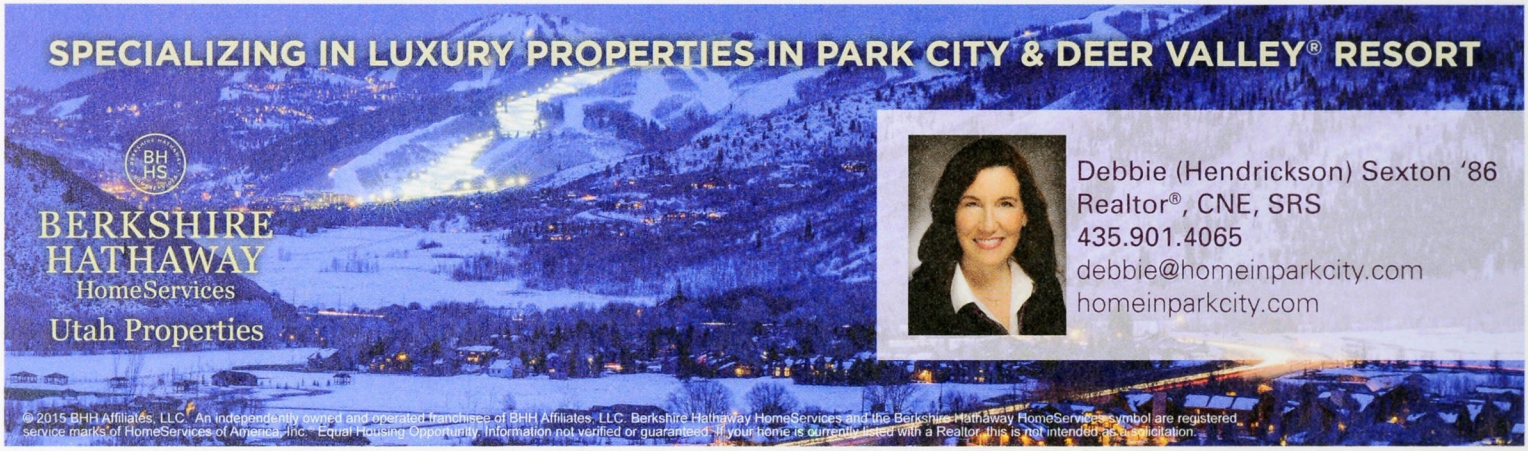
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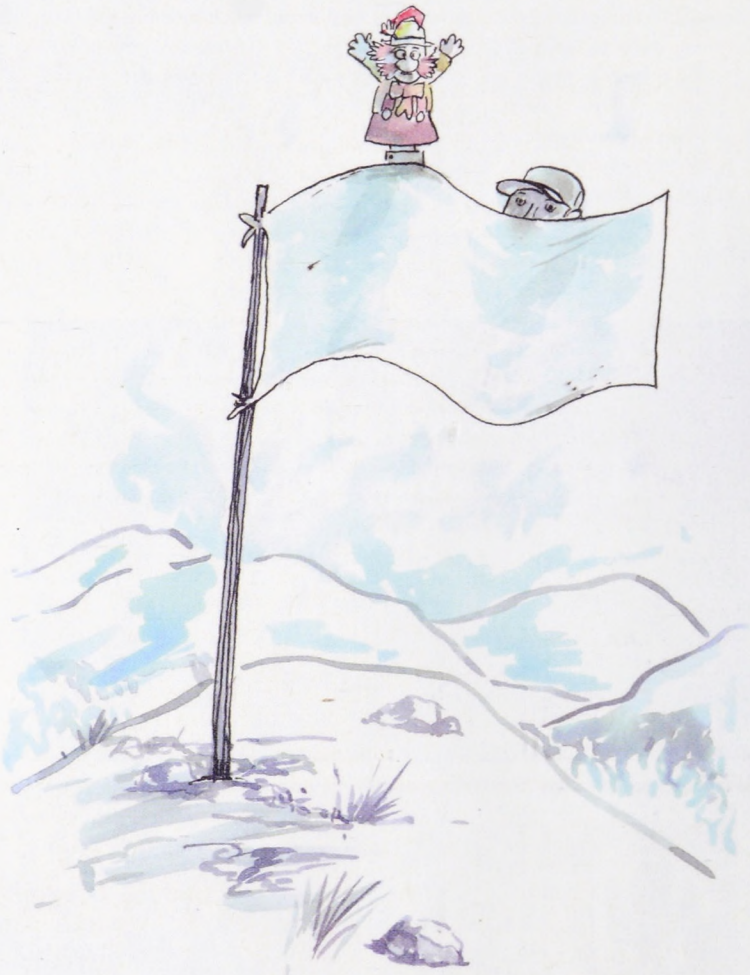


By Rob Waters '71

Let's Give It a Name

As many Long Trail hikers know, Vermont has its own presidential range. It's less lofty than the famous one over in New Hampshire, but four peaks between Bread Loaf Mountain and Lincoln Gap—partially visible from the Middlebury campus—bear the names Mount Wilson, Mount Roosevelt, Mount Cleveland, and Mount Grant.

And right in the middle, between Roosevelt and Cleveland, is a lesser summit called Little Hans Peak. Little Hans? What was he president of? Where did that name come from?

Well, I'll tell you. I know. I was there.

In the summer of 1970, just before my senior year, I got a job as one of four members of a Green Mountain National Forest trail crew. Three of us were college students, and our leader was Ray Secor, a Navy veteran and seasoned hiker who already had his Long Trail end-to-end patch.

We went out on Monday mornings and returned late Friday, camping out during the week along the trail. One week as we worked north of Bread Loaf, we carried a bag of some food product—I forget what, but it might have been chocolate bars—that included a hand puppet, presumably for the entertainment of children like us.

The puppet—basically a small plastic bag printed with a face and hands sticking out—was named Little Hans. It said so on the package. We waved Little Hans around from time to time and made dumb jokes. And as we trekked between our campsite and the spots where we worked on the trail, we repeatedly crossed an unnamed summit.

As the week progressed, a consensus emerged that this hump between Presidents Cleveland and Roosevelt was worthy of a name. At camp one evening, Ray carved a small sign. The next day, we attached the sign to a tree on the summit. It read "Little Hans Peak."

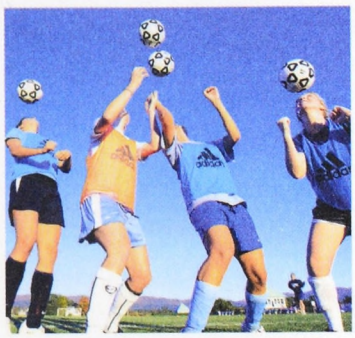
I'm a lifelong hiker, though I rarely get back to Vermont and haven't revisited that section of the trail since that week 46 years ago. So you can imagine my surprise as I leafed through the September 2016 issue of *Backpacker* magazine and encountered a short article recommending a peak-bagging walk in the Green Mountains: from Cooley Glen Shelter to Mount Wilson and back, crossing the summits of Cleveland and Roosevelt and, in between, Little Hans Peak.

I gawked in disbelief. To confirm what I was seeing, I ran and grabbed my copy of the Long Trail Guide, 2011 edition. And there it was—in boldface, on Page 136—Little Hans Peak.

During the past half century, I've lost touch with my trail crew colleagues. But Ray Secor, John Anlian, and Bob Llewellyn, wherever you may be, please take a bow. M

Rob Waters spent nearly 40 years as a newspaper reporter and editor at dailies around the country, including the Philadelphia Inquirer, *the* Los Angeles Times, *and the* Raleigh News & Observer.

ILLUSTRATION BY GRAHAM ROUMIEU



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